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# **MPS CALL TO AMEND SPORTS** LAWS TO END SUSPENSIONS

## **OPPOSITION MPS WARN PM OVER CITIZENSHIPS, UTILITY CHARGES**

## **CANADIAN TOURIST AMONG 10 KILLED IN JORDAN ATTACKS**

AMMAN: Gunmen killed 10 people including a Canadian tourist and police officers yesterday in southern Jordan where security forces were hunting down the unidentified attackers. The shootings took place in Karak, a tourist destination known for one of the biggest Crusader castles in the region, around 120 km south of the capital Amman. Jordan's general security department said seven policemen, a female Canadian tourist and two Jordanian civilians were killed in a series of shootings. It said that 27 others, including policemen and civilians, were wounded. A separate police statement said that "a number of outlaws who committed ugly crimes this afternoon" had been killed and that security forces were combing the Crusader castle for more gunmen.

HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable of condolences yesterday to King Abdullah II of Jordan. The Amir expressed his sincere condolences and sorrow over the tragic shooting attack in Karak. He confirmed Kuwait's strong condemnation and rejection of such terrorist acts which targeted innocent lives, reiterating Kuwait's full solidarity with the kingdom and support of all measures by the Jordanian government to preserve the safety and stability of the country.

**Continued on Page 13** 

## **IS BLAST KILLS 52 YEMENI SOLDIERS**



ADEN: Yemenis gather at the Al-Sawlaba base in Aden's Al-Arish district yesterday, after a suicide bomber targeted a crowd of soldiers. — AFP (See Page 13)

#### By B Izzak

KUWAIT: Eleven opposition MPs yesterday demanded an emergency session in the Assembly to debate a solution on how to end the international suspension of Kuwait's sports bodies. The lawmakers said they want the session to be held on Wednesday, just two days before an ultimatum given to Kuwait to rectify its sport legislations to be able to take part in qualifications for the 2019 Asian football cup.

MPs said in the motion that Kuwait was barred from international sports over a year ago because of a number of local legislations issued since 2013 that violate international sports charters. During the opening session of the Assembly on Dec 11, lawmakers passed a recommendation calling on the government to take necessary steps to lift the freeze on Kuwaiti sports.

Minister of Information and Youth Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah said the government is prepared to sit with the International Olympic Committee or world football governing body FIFA or any other side to settle the issue, provided that this does not breach the Kuwaiti constitution or sovereignty. At least three opposition MPs have threatened to grill Sheikh Salman over the sports issue, unless the government adopts the necessary measures to end the suspension, which was imposed in Oct 2015.

The opposition lawmakers also submitted a draft law calling to scrap all controversial sports laws issued in 2013, 2014, 2015 and earlier this year that were cited by world sport bodies as violating international charters. The lawmakers want to revive a 2012 legislation that was in line with the international sports law in a bid to end the suspension. **Continued on Page 13** 

# **JUNIJULENGED**

# **Kuwait Times Editor-in-Chief**, management and staff

convey their deepest condolences to

# **Al-Maousherji family**

on the sad demise of

**Mohammed Sager Al-Maousherji** 

May Allah Almighty bestow His mercy on him

## Kuwait 🗻 Times 🍜

## LOCAL





KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem and members of the National Assembly Office for the first regular session of the 15th Legislative Term. —Amiri Diwan and KUNA photos

His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem and members of the National Assembly Office for the first regular session of the 15th Legislative Term.

## AMIR, CP MEET SPEAKER, ASSEMBLY OFFICE MEMBERS



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Vice Commander of Kuwait National Guard Sheikh Meshaal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

**KUWAIT:** His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah yesterday received at Bayan Palace National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem and members of the National Assembly Office for the first regular session of the 15th Legislative Term.

The newly-formed office includes Deputy Speaker MP Essa Ahmad Al-Kandari, National Assembly's Secretary MP Dr Ouda Al-Rowaei, Controller Naif Abdulaziz Al-Ajmi, head of the Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee MP Mohammad Hussein Al-Dallal, head of the Priorities Committee MP Thamer Saad Al-Suwait and Secretary General MP Allam Ali Al-Kandari. Speaker Ghanem and the office members later met with His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah at Bayan Palace

Earlier yesterday, His Highness the Amir met with His Highness the Crown Prince, His Highness the Amir received His Highness the Premier Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, and Vice Commander of Kuwait National Guard Sheikh Meshaal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

Meanwhile, His Highness the Crown Prince received His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Anas Khaled Al-Saleh, Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Al-Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah. — KUNA



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.



### **KUWAIT DISTRIBUTES 6,000 BLANKETS TO DISPLACED IRAQIS**

**IRBIL:** Kuwait has provided around 6,000 blankets for displaced Iragis, many of whom have fled a war zone in the northern city of Mosul. Speaking yesterday, Kuwait's Consul General in Irbil Omar Al-Kandari said that as temperatures continue to plummet to single digits, such items as blankets are a necessity to help these displaced people stay warm.

On the aid, he said that the families

through trying times. He also underscored that such humanitarian aid will continue to meet the needs of a growing number of displaced people.

Meanwhile, an official from Al-Barzani Chairty, Ismail Abdulaziz said that Kuwait's aid represents a benevolent deed, noting that freezing temperatures will only exacerbate the misery these displaced people are living in. Kuwait had previously distrib-

KUWAIT: Secretary General of Awgaf Mohammad Al-Jalahmah attends the news conference. —KUNA

## KUWAIT HOSTS MEETING ON AWQAF CULTURE THIS WEEK

23rd Al-Awqaf Meeting, patronized by His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, and aimed at promoting the country's contributions to Awqaf culture.

The meeting, scheduled on Tuesday and light the State of Kuwait contributions in the realm of Awgaf culture and the impact on Islamic communities, said Mohammad Al-Jalahmah, the Secretary General of Awqaf, at the secretariat, he explained.

KUWAIT: Kuwait witnesses later this week the a news conference on the planned event, held yesterday.

The scheduled meeting will be "within framework of discussing the State of Kuwait role in Islamic culture as it has been proclaimed the Capital of Islamic Culture (2016)," Jalahmah said. Wednesday, contributes to bringing into It will comprise a large number of public authorities and NGOs and focus on the State cultural projects, as part of the Islamic Awqaf in the Islamic World's coordination, undertaken by

The State of Kuwait, namely the Secretary General possesses the world's largest information infrastructure in Awgaf culture, including all realms; legal, administrative and entrepreneurial. Jalahmah added that the conferees would shed light on the secretariat's role in serving the Islamic nation and a sideline exhibition will display publications about these Kuwaiti services. Elaborating, the official indicated that the participants in the meeting will also discuss some Awqaf issues in the virtual world. —KUNA

## **EXPERTS CALL FOR SPEEDY** ESTABLISHMENT OF GCC BOURSE

### SLOVENIA PRAISED FOR HOSTING CONFERENCE

**KUWAIT:** Economic experts have called for establishing hastily a common GCC bourse saying it is necessary to cope with 'future challenges' and complete economic merger of the Council's member states. The experts propose allotting \$1 trillion as market value of the aspired stock exchange and enacting legislations and rules for the common bourse.

Mohammad Zainal, Chairman and Managing Director of Arzan Financial Group, expressed his belief that such a market could attract high financial liquidity and lure foreign investors as well as family companies, thus boosting confidence in the GCC economy.

Mohammad Al-Naqi, Chairman of the Kuwaiti Industries Company, said the proposed stock exchange would enhance the Gulf economy, namely the companies with high credit status; namely the banks, communication and logistics' companies.

Salah Al-Sultan, advisor at Arzaq Capital, agreed that such a market should be formed quickly for it would furnish traders with better opportunities to trade in diverse stocks, "as well as opening new horizons for companies operating in feasible sectors namely tourism and technology." It can also play a key role in nationalizing investments and luring foreign enterprises. Maitham Al-Shakhs, the former CEO of Al-Arabi Brokerage Company, said such a project would require law enforcement, methods of arbitration and specifying financing rules.

Director General of the Mina Financial and Economic Consultation Company Adnan Al-Dulaimi said setting up such a market serves the GCC leaders' objective of boosting mutual economic cooperation among the member countries of the council. For his part, Mohammad Al-Tarrah of the Traders Society advised the investors to wait for establishing this market so they could have access to stocks of Gulf companies.

#### **GCC-Slovenian Conference**

Separately, GCC Secretary-General Abdullatif Al-Zayani praised the Slovenian Foreign Ministry's initiative in organizing the first-ever GCC-Slovenian Conference. Al-Zayani made this remarks in a statement at the conclusion of the GCC-Slovenian Conference that ended this weekend in Ljubljana, Slovenia, stressing the keenness of both sides to develop bilateral relations in the future.

In a short period of time, Slovenia was able to achieve significant and tangible achievements in building a modern state and to join the European Union in 2004, the

GCC Chief added. He pointed out that the conference tackled important issues including the national visions for development, climate change and renewable energy sources, and international development cooperation.

Meanwhile, State Secretary Daria Bavdaz Kuret praised the Kuwaiti-Slovenian talks, adding that both sides discussed ways to provide solid grounds for the two nations to pursue more cooperation in the near future.

A high-level Kuwaiti delegation headed by Kuwait's Assistant Foreign Minister for GCC Affairs Ambassador Nasser Al-Mezyen, comprises Kuwait's Ambassador to Austria and permanent envoy to international organizations Sadig Marafie and representative of Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) Sheikh Ahmad Ali Al-Sabah and other diplomats. —KUNA

residing in camps have been provided with a pair of blankets per family, noting that such measures reinforce Kuwait's solidarity with Irag as the country goes

uted 3000 heaters to displaced Iragis, in addition to food rations as part of an aid package earmarked for the war-torn nation. —KUNA





### KUWAIT ROLE MODEL FOR HEALTH CARE IN DETENTION PLACES: ICRC

KUWAIT: Kuwait is the only Arab country that directly designates the Ministry of Health to provide health care in places of detention, said Coordinator of the International Committee of the Red Cross' (ICRC) protection department Ralph Wehbe yesterday. Wehbe in statement during the second GCC workshop on health care in detention held recently in Kuwait praised the unique and leading experience of Kuwait in this regard.

The ICRC is carrying out its own activities in places of detention in Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar, under bilateral agreements with the relevant authorities, pointing out that it has been working in Kuwait since the Gulf War (1990-1991). He also said that the ICRC's regional delegation covers the needs of the GCC countries resulting from war, armed conflicts and ongoing violence in the region.

Meanwhile, Dr Feras Abu Samra, a doctor in charge of health in detention at the ICRC said the workshop aims to exchange experiences and discuss common challenges in dealing with some issues related to psychological health in detention, adding that this workshop came after the first workshop which was held in Kuwait in November 2014. —KUNA

### Kuwait 🗻 Times 🍜

# 3,000 STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN ART COMPETITION, UNDER THE SLOGAN OF 'COLOURS OF AUSTRALIA'

Sponsored by VIVA, ACK • Hosted by Crowne Plaza

**KUWAIT:** Supported by the Australian Embassy, in cooperation with the Kuwait Times, the embassy is proud to launch the "Colours of Australia" drawing competition for students in Kuwait. The competition will have students in Kuwait learn more about different countries, cultures and civilizations, and to identify communities in other parts of the world through arts. The theme for the Arts competition is "Colours of Australia" to encourage students to express their

knowledge of Australia by drawing an icon, a natural scene, or any other expression they would find suitable. The competition is still open for all schools who want to participate.

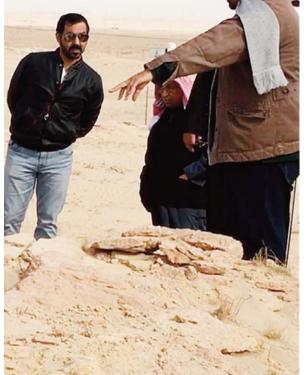
The drawing competition is held from December 12, 2016 till January 26, 2017 for a period of forty six days, allowing participants from government, special needs, private schools and bilingual schools enough time to submit their work.

At the due date, the drawing sheets tablets, will be awarded to the top 10 will be collected by Kuwait Times, and a jury of professional artists will be selected from the Kuwait Arts Association, who will choose the top ten winners of each age group. The contest is open to both boys and girls as follows: Elementary (6-9 years ) Intermediate (11-13 years), Secondary (14 years and above), in addition to schools of special needs.

Valuable prizes, including phones and

entrants in each category. Three major winners will be selected in each category who will be given a plaque and major prizes, while the remaining seven runnersup will receive certificates and prizes. A certificate will also be given to the school as recognition of honourable participation. The competition is sponsored by VIVA and the Australian College of Kuwait, with the awards event to be hosted by Crowne Plaza Hotel "Al-Thuraya City".







KUWAIT: Kuwait University history and antiquities professors and students examine a site in Subbiya where they say ancient remains were found. —Photos by Hanan Al-Saadoun



## **ANCIENT REMAINS** FOUND IN SUBBIYA

### Could be older than Failaka ruins: Professor

#### **By Hanan Al-Saadoun**

KUWAIT: Kuwait University (KU) professors believe that remnants found recently at an area located north of Kuwait could even be older than Failaka's ruins, which date back to as early as 2,000 BC. The remnants found recently in Subbiya likely belong to civilizations that existed in the area, as they include what could be grave yards of nobles. "Through the science of antiquities, it became clear the area was inhabited because of the temple graveyards and houses "found there)," said Dr Ahmad Saeed, a history professor at KU.

Dr Saeed was one of many professors who accompanied history and antiquities students in a trip organized by the history department at KU to Subbiya last Saturday. Other professors include Dr Sultan Al-Duwaish, Researcher Dr Fahad Al-Wuhaibi, Dr Sayyed Mahfouz, Dr Faisal Al-Wazzan, Dr Ahmad Al-Hassan, Dr Hamad Al-Qahtani and Dr Mai Al-Shawad. Head of history department Dr Abdallah Al-Hajiri was also present.

Meanwhile, Dr Duwaish said that ostrich eggs were found in large quantities at the site, in addition to beads and mall amounts of clay. He said a seal was found that dates to the fourth millennium BC. History and antiquities experts will continue working on the site with hopes of revealing more information about the civilizations that could have inhabited the area, Dr Duwaish explained.



Dr Sultan Al-Duwaish speaks during the students' visit.





## **KUWAIT EXECUTES 150 PROGRAMS** FOR YOUTH IN EARLY 2017: OFFICIAL

'Kuwait is UN partner in youth sector'



KUWAIT: The United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth Ahmad Al-Hendawi speaks during a meeting in Kuwait. —KUNA

KUWAIT: The Public Authority for Youth (PAY) is set to execute about 150 programs for youth activities early 2017. The plan will be executed in cooperation with different ministries and the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters (NCCAL), said the authority's Director-General Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi in a press statement yesterday.

The programs will allow youth of all talents to express their creativity and abilities in an encouraging environment, he said. Meanwhile, Assistant Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health (MoH) for Medical Services Dr Mohammad Al-Khashti said the ministry is taking part in the plan by holding training courses on first aid and seminars on healthy eating and fighting obesity.

#### Partner

Separately, a UN envoy has lauded Kuwait's leading status in supporting the youth saying the country is a



#### Director General of the Public **Authority for Youth (PAY)** Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi

'partner' with the international organization at this level. Kuwait is among the top states in empowering the youth and providing them with incentives, said the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, Ahmad Al-Hendawi, in a statement yesterday.

He was speaking on the heels of a meeting that grouped him with officials from the Ministry of State for Youth Affairs and the Public Authority for Youth (PAY), discussing the national youth policy and designating the country as the Arab Youth Capital (2017) by the Arab League.

The UN is tied with a 'strategic partnership' with the ministry, he said, noting that Kuwait is ahead of other Arab countries in the youth sphere, he said. The international organization views Kuwait as a minaret for supporting youth enterprise, he added, lauding the Kuwaiti leaders who believe in the young citizens' potentials.

UN branch offices in Kuwait closely cooperate with the local authorities concerned with the juniors' affairs, he elaborated, noting that the UN and Kuwait have been bonded with an accord to enhance international action for the youth. ---KUNA

#### TIMPLESS GREETING

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## Kuwait 🗻 Times 🍜

LOCAL

#### In Brief

#### **AMIR CONGRATULATES** BAHRAINI PM

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable yesterday to Bahraini Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al-Khalifa, congratulating him on the recent successful medical tests. His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah also sent the Bahraini premier cables of similar sentiments. — KUNA



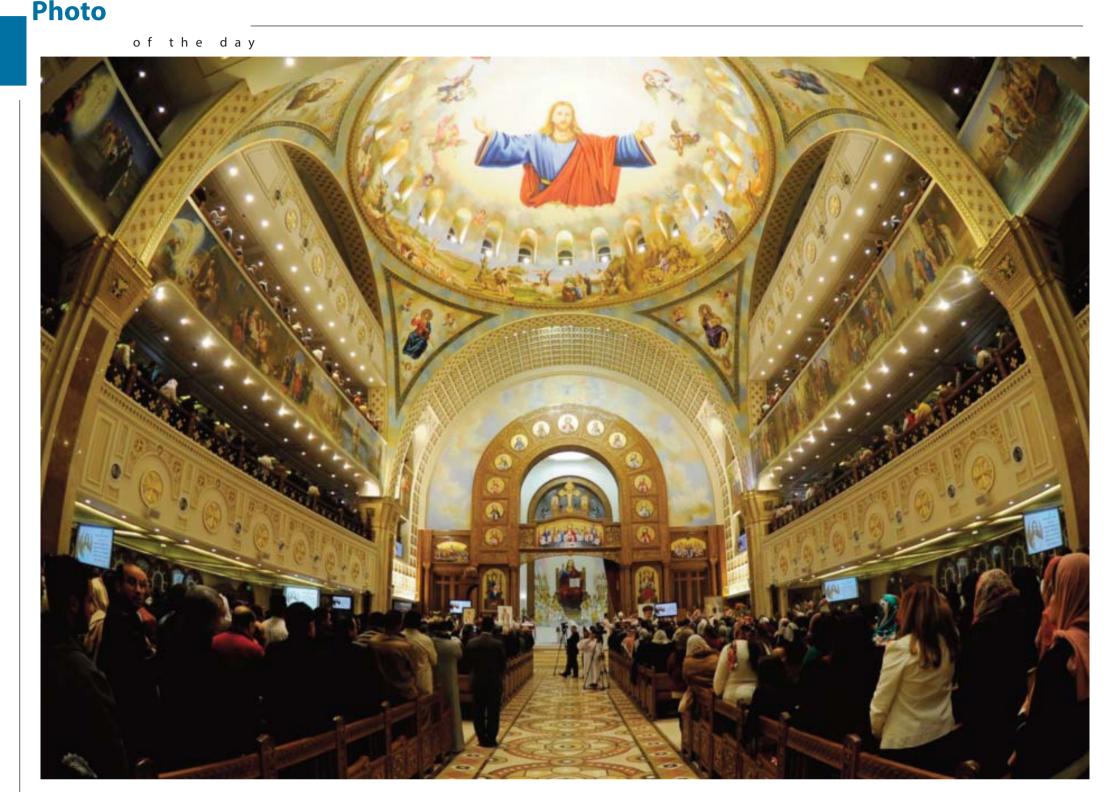
#### AMIR CONGRATULATES QATAR

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable of congratulations yesterday to Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani on the occasion of his country's national day. His Highness praised the comprehensive accomplishments of Qatar under the wise leadership of Sheikh Tamim. His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables. — KUNA

### **CLOSER ARAB COOPERATION**

**CAIRO:** Kuwaiti Assistant Foreign Minister for Arab Affairs Ambassador Azeez Al-Daihani said yesterday that Kuwait is keen on promoting and propping up cooperation and coordination among Arab countries. He made the remark in a statement on the sidelines of a joint meeting of senior Arab and EU officials. Daihani, who led the Kuwaiti delegation, said Kuwait is always interested in continuing strategic dialogue between the Arab League and the European Union (EU). —KUNA





### KFH STARTS OPERATING LARGEST ATM SYSTEMS' NETWORK FOR THE BLIND

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Finance House (KFH) announced the commencement of operation of 10 ATMs provided specially for the blind in various areas of Kuwait in appreciation of their conditions and difficulties and to ensure that they avail the best service that suites their circumstances. Deputy General

Manager at KFH Khaled

Al-Subaie stated in a

press release that KFH is

keen on providing bank-



**Khaled Al-Subaie** 

ing services to various tiers of customers and provide all means to obtain such services smoothly and easily, especially customers with special needs. Accordingly, KFH has commenced the operation of 10 ATMs which are allocated specially for blind people in its branches in Keefan - Rawda - Shaab -Zahraa - Mubarak Al-Kabeer - Dhaher - Fahaheel - Rihab -Saad Al-Abdullah and Jahraa, Mikhyal Mall. He indicated that ATM machines were distributed in various areas of the country in order to serve the largest number of customers bearing in mind that such machines have highly sophisticated specifications to suite blind peoples' needs.

Subaie emphasized that the machines have common specifications, i.e. enable the blind to write by using Braille letters, taking voice instructions to facilitate procedures for all users. ATM machines are placed in easy to reach locations to ensure that users do not suffer any difficulties, bearing in mind that the machines are fully secured and monitored.

He added that KFH is the leading bank where ATMs are concerned. With the operation of these machines KFH becomes the leading bank in providing ATM machines for the blind. He reiterated that KFH continues to adopt the latest developments in technological infrastructure to better serve its customers and implement the diversification and comprehensiveness. Technology and machinery have become an added value for quick banking and one of the basic requirements of customers.

KFH sophisticated ATM systems provide various advantages, e.g. opening investment deposits, cash withdrawal service, balance inquiries, short and instant account statement, cheque books, cash deposit for retail and corporate customers.

## **BOULEVARD LAUNCHES SEASON ACTIVITIES**

#### **By Faten Omar**

KUWAIT: The Boulevard launched its activities for the current season, the higher organizing committee announced during a press conference yesterday. Adwan Al-Adwani, Chairman of the Al-Salmiya Group Company for Enterprise Development, noted that Boulevard provides activities for all age categories. "We are going to kick off our educational activities in order to entertain and motivate citizens and residents of all ages."

Adwani noted that the company's management has prepared educational and entertainment programs for the entire year, as well as tourist programs for entrepreneurs from inside and outside Kuwait. He asked government organizations to support young people to establish small and medium enterprises and to adopt Kuwaiti youth projects at Boulevard. "As part of our social responsibility, we have a 'Lobby' project that provides stores of suitable space at nominal rent to encourage small enterprises by young Kuwaitis and help them launch their projects," he added.

He said that Salmiya Group will support young people by various activities and events to be organized in cooperation with government and non-government organizations from the private sector. Adwani revealed a 3D drawing festival will be held to support talented youth and develop their skills. A free workshop by artists from Australia to draw 3D graphics was the first event of its kind in Kuwait.

He called on institutions and tourism companies to prepare touristic programs to get tourists from the GCC, Arab and foreign countries to visit Boulevard, where the company's management will organize entertainment and educational programs and historical, artistic, recreational, cultural, theatrical and other activities. Adwani also invited the ministry of education to organize trips for students to Boulevard. "We haven't forgotten the disabled, and equipped the park with suitable facilities for them. We would also like to organize trips for them to achieve common national goals."

In addition, Boulevard will organize football, basketball, volleyball, tennis, cricket and other matches in its grounds. He said Boulevard welcomes all media, radio, television and satellite channels, public and private, to record their programs inside the mall. Adwani pointed out that Salmiya Group will develop public awareness and educational competitions for visitors on different occasions. Competition among chefs will also be held in restaurants that are located in Boulevard on a monthly basis to select the best dish.

At the end of the press conference, Adwani announced the start of a competition for the media, which have a unique role. The competition is about the best report covering Boulevard's activities and events during this month. There will be also a competition for the best footage for photographers. Al-Ahli Bank's branch in the Boulevard also announced the start of a competition for best picture of the bank's branch in the Boulevard. Ali Bsaj, Regional Manager of Al-Ahli Bank, said that the bank will give cash prizes to the winners of the most beautiful pictures.



KUWAIT: (From left) Nader Marafie, Adwan Al-Adwani and Ahmed Abu Sido attend the press conference yesterday.—Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat



Adwan Al-Adwani honors Ahmed Abu Sido.

## Kuwait 📥 Times 🌆



Local Spotlight

## CHILD RIGHTS IN KUWAIT

#### By Attorney Fajer Ahmed

Legalese

very society has different traditions when it comes to what is and is not acceptable behavior regarding children, every generation also has different ways of doing things. Marriage to a 10-year-old was acceptable in many countries in the past, even in the Gulf Cooperation Council states, but is certainly not acceptable or legal now. Child labor was also legal in many countries in the previous century but is not now. What about Kuwaiti law in general? What are the most important laws when it comes to age?

I personally think that more light should be shed on child rights in the GCC. Today, I have gathered questions from my readers/clients on children in Kuwait and their rights from adults that are concerned.

#### Minors under 16 for criminal cases

**Question:** My son is 16 years old and as a teenager he can be hard to control sometimes. His friends and him were caught stealing from the grocery shop next door. I am really worried about him. I heard there is a new law in Kuwait that makes 16 years the new "legal age" and therefore he can be held responsible, is this true?

**Fajer:** Before I answer the question, I want to make it clear that under Kuwaiti law there is no such thing as "legal age". There are different circumstances for ages under Kuwaiti law depending on the law that is of concern. I think what you are speaking about is criminal law, in the past those accused of a crime were only trialed at the criminal courts for adults if they were 18 and above. The new law states that minors are now under 16 years old for criminal cases and not 18.

#### Child rights

**Question:** A lot of people say there are no child rights in Kuwait. Is this true? Also, as a teacher, I would like my students to be aware of what they can do or who they can speak to should there be any incidents or when they feel unsafe. What can I tell them?

**Fajer:** Of course children have rights in Kuwait just like any other civil society, but the rights differ accordingly. The Ministry of Health in Kuwait has a Child Protection Hotline; the number is 147, and children in Kuwait should be aware of this number and the services they offer. Adults should also know this number and call it should they see any children being abused.

#### Divorce and travel

**Question:** I am divorced and I would like to take my children with me on a holiday back home. Am I allowed to do that? Do my children have the right to refuse also?

**Fajer:** Questions like this need to be more specific, as a lawyer I need more information from you. It depends on if you are the mother or father and also what is the religion of the marriage as well as the terms that were agreed upon for the divorce.

If you are the mother and you have "legal guardianship" on the children, legally speaking you still need permission from their father in order to travel. The officer at immigration could ask you for a permission letter from their father.

For any legal questions, queries or if you need legal assistance, email ask@fajerthelawyer.com

## POWER STRUGGLE AT THE HEART OF SPORTS CRISIS

**KUWAIT:** A lingering sports crisis in Kuwait that triggered international sanctions is seen as part of a power struggle in the state, analysts say. Over a year ago, world sports bodies led by the International Olympic Committee and world football's FIFA suspended Kuwait over alleged government interference in sports for the second time since 2010. According to world sports organizations, the suspension was due to legislation issued in 2014 and 2015 allowing the government to interfere in local sports federations and undermine the inde-

pendence of the sports movement. As a result, the state was barred from taking part in the Rio 2016 Olympic Games and qualification for the 2018 World Cup. Shooter Fehaid Al-Deehani, who won a gold medal, the first ever by a Kuwaiti athlete at the Olympics, had to compete as an independent and was not allowed to carry his country's flag due to the ban. However, that could change after Kuwait's new parliament - elected last month with opposition MPs taking nearly half the seats - called on the government "to do what is necessary to lift the suspension on sport".

In a possible sign of progress, Information and Youth Minister Sheikh Salman Humoud Al-Sabah told MPs last week that the government was ready to sit down "with FIFA or any other side provided that does not breach Kuwait's sovereignty or constitution". A neutral group appears to have emerged in the new parliament pushing for an end to the suspension.

"The problem of sports in Kuwait is that it is being used as a tool in the power struggle," political analyst Nasser Al-Abdali told AFP. Huge public funds pumped into sports could also be a factor, according to Abdali, who heads the Kuwait Society for the Promotion of Democracy. The sports authority said last year that the government spent KD 400 million (\$1.3 billion) on sports in the past five years. Sheikh Salman had directly

accused "Kuwaitis in international

g sports" of causing the suspension
 through complaints they sent to
 world sports bodies. The old parliament passed legislation in June
 boosting the government's influence
 r in sports which was used by the government to dissolve the country's
 Olympic committee, the football federations.

"Those laws are personal and violate international sports charters," said leading Kuwaiti sports journalist Faisal Al-Qanai, Qanai, who is also vice president of the International Press Sports Association. Leading Kuwaiti sports critic Mutlag Nassar however argues that the new laws do not contradict international sports charters. "Legislation was introduced to reduce the influence of corrupt forces and reform the sports movement which was being misused for personal gains," Nassar told AFP. Qanai however said that "all Kuwait needs to do is to amend the violating laws and the suspension will be lifted within 24 hours". — AFP

# WOMAN FOUND LIVING IN THE DESERT WITH TWO DAUGHTERS

#### Trio taken to social care home

#### Jaber Hospital The Supreme Planning Council's

KUWAIT: Minister of Social Affairs and Labor and Minister of State for Economic Affairs Hind Al-Subaih ordered the examination of a Kuwaiti woman found living in a tent with her two daughters in the Nuwaiseeb desert. The woman used to work for the interior ministry and was expelled for absenteeism. The woman's social allowance has been suspended since 2004. Reports about a woman living alone in the desert with her daughters had gone viral on social media, and the social affairs ministry confirmed the reports to be true yesterday. It arranged for the woman and her daughters to be taken to a social care home. However, after preparing a temporary residence for her, it was discovered that the woman is suffering from mental illness, so she was sent to the psychiatric diseases hospital, while her daughters are being

**By Meshaal Al-Enezi** 

medically examined.

Assistant Secretary General Bader Al-Refa'e said that 98 percent of Jaber Hospital is ready, and the facility will be handed over as per the Ministry of Public Works' reports. Refa'e visited the site yesterday escorted by the ministry's assistant undersecretaries, and told reporters that the visit was part of a series of visits to sites where development projects are being carried out to check work progress, and to overcome any possible obstacles in collaboration with relevant government bodies. Refa'e added that his team recently visited the new airport, Al-Zour refinery and other projects.

Meanwhile, the ministry's road engineering sector announced the launch of a new phase of the Jamal Abdul Nasser Road development project and said that Minister Abdurrahman Al-Mutawa gave orders to lengthen the road by nine kilometers more. Mutawa said that the project is one of the largest infrastructure ventures constructed in collaboration with a consortium comprising of the Arab Office and Louis Berger at a total cost of KD 242.42 million. He added that the project is scheduled to be completed by mid-2018.

#### Fatal crash

A 41-year-old citizen was killed after losing control over his vehicle, which turned over on Fifth Ring Road near Bavan Palace.

#### Forgery

The administrative court yesterday ordered the suspension and cancellation of Al-Seddiq Co-op Society's board elections, which were set to be held today, because of suspicions of forgery in candidates' registration. Meanwhile, consumer protection and commercial inspection teams foiled an attempt to forge the production country of Pakistani potatoes after re-bagging and labeling them as Lebanese potatoes in order to sell them for higher prices. The potato shipment was seized at the vegetable market.

## ALEPPO CRIME



he Middle East is facing very complex and difficult conditions, especially since the situation involves religious ideologies. Talk about assault and murder in the media seems normal. It is a disgusting situation.

Aleppo has been exposed to crimes against humanity, regardless of the justifications or reasons given by any power. My simple understanding of crimes against humanity is the well-known definition that includes murder, extermination, torture, displacement and dimensional exclusion, terrorism and detention or illegal persecution for religious or racial reasons, whether individually or collectively, against civilians in occupied territories. Isn't that what just happened to the city of Aleppo?

The killing operation there began with a displacement of the population of east Aleppo, with a live broadcast carried by the official Syrian TV channel under the title "Aleppo victory". This channel showed some scenes of areas of destruction in Aleppo - images that the world saw for the first time. The destruction there is massive and bloody.

Where are the UN representatives? No comments! It sent low-ranked employees to submit a proposal on the readiness of the United Nations to assist the people of Aleppo to be expelled from their homes, at a time when the whole world knows that the International Red Cross refused to supervise the forced displacement of the people of Aleppo. This poses a big question. Did the Red Cross refuse to cover a crime against humanity?

US President Barack Obama clearly stated that the responsibility lies with the Assad regime and its allies, the Russians and Iranians. He said in a press conference at the White House that "their hands are stained with blood". Thank you sir - you only said the truth.

The World Health Organization confirmed that it informed the relief agencies that were involved in the evacuation operations to leave the area, without providing any reasons. Killings are continuing with no one to help! The Kuwait Red Crescent Society is in the process of collecting donations, and individuals and groups are also doing so, but I do not know how it would be sent and to whom.

For the first time since his election, US President-Elect Donald Trump confirmed his view on the need to work on the establishment of safe zones in Syria, adding that Gulf states have to pay the cost. Sadly, he doesn't see the humanitarian side of the conflict. He does not talk about the US' humanitarian duty to stop the Russian or Iranian intervention in the region and ensure the safety of residents who were forced to move out









KUWAIT: The Kuwait Dive Team of the Environmental Voluntary Foundation lifted a wooden sunken boat weighing 20 tons from Fahaheel waters yesterday. The team was able to lift the sunken boat by using air suction pumps, but such efforts were obstructed by wastes and cold weather, the team's leader Waleed Al-Fadhel said. He called on boat owners and fishermen to preserve the environment of the area, and called for tightening relevant laws against violators to protect the marine environment of Kuwait. — KUNA



KUWAIT: Captain Fahad Al-Mukaimi from the Hawally Fire Station return to Kuwait Saturday night after spending the past few months in Germany for treatment from injuries he sustained while tackling a blaze last July. Senior Kuwait Fire Service Directorate officials welcomed Mukaimi at the airport. — By Hanan Al-Saadoun

of their countries. Trump's only concern is that the Gulf should pay for the refugees' eating and drinking costs.

I'm not optimistic at all. I think that the war in Syria will last longer than expected in light of the US approach and the world's silence. Some Arab media tried to justify Arab impotence over Aleppo by blaming Turkey. This is not acceptable or fair, because it is not reasonable to expect Turkey alone to save Aleppo, after the US' complicity and disappointing role. There is no doubt Turkey has played a great humanitarian role so far.

What happened in Aleppo is a crime against humanity, including forced displacement of the population by Russia, Iran and the Damascus regime, amidst international silence headed by the United Nations. The situation puts Turkey in the foreground and Gulf states must stand firmly with Turkey. Aleppo is not going to be the last scene of massacres and more evil is coming. Gulf states need to support Turkey by all means and at all cost.

### INTERIOR MINISTER Abandons responsibility over sending staff for treatment abroad

#### By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** Deputy Premier and Interior Minister Lt Gen Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah issued a ministerial decision to transfer the approval of sending interior ministry employees for treatment abroad or to private hospitals in Kuwait to the Ministry of Health's treatment abroad department. The interior minister previously had the authority making for such approvals, but after yes-

terday's decision, the



Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah

treatment abroad department becomes the sole authority responsible for making such decisions.

#### No injuries in fire

Firemen put out fire in a mosque under construction in Jaber Al-Ali yesterday. Firefighters arrived to the scene minutes after the fire was reported, and managed to put out the flames before the blaze could spread. No injuries were reported in the incident. A case was filed to determine the cause of the fire.

#### **Traffic light**

The Interior Ministry's traffic department said a traffic light will become operational starting from today for vehicles coming from King Fahd Road at the intersection with Street 278 at Sabah Al-Ahmad Sea City.

## Kuwait 🗻 Times 🌆

### FROM THE ARABIC PRESS

#### الانياء

## HOW CAN THEY BE GOOD FOR KUWAIT?

#### **By Dr Nermin Al-Houti**

Al-Anbaa

The National Assembly's 2016 elections are over. Some accepted the results while others did not. That was how I was drawn to an incident that took place during the elections. My friend Um Yousuf and I were exchanging views on the very election day on the next assembly, when her phone rang. After speaking for a few minutes, she answered the caller in a sharp tone, "listen cousin, all the names that young mentioned are not reformists, so do not expect me and my friends to vote for them, I believe you made a mistake by calling me."

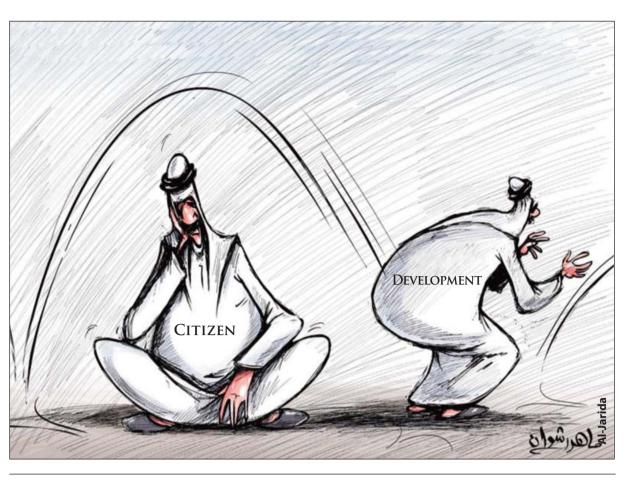
After hanging up, Um Yousuf said, "my cousin never called me for months to ask about my health and whereabouts, but had the audacity to ask me to give my vote to the names she mentioned, claiming that they can reform the state

Why do I believe her and give my vote to people whom she follows while she does not know how to keep in touch with her own relatives?

and the assembly. Why should I believe her and give my vote to people whom she follows while she does not know how to keep in touch with her own relatives? When they are not good to their relatives, how are they going to be good for Kuwait and its people?"

"O mankind, fear your Lord, Who created you and your mate from the same soul and dispersed many men and women from both of them. Fear Allah, through Whom you ask one another. Indeed, Allah is always, over you, an Observer." Surat An-Nisa - the Holy Quran.

— Translated by Kuwait Times



الانباء 🕯

### THE SIX-MONTH PARLIAMENT

#### By Thaar Al-Rasheedi

Al-Anbaa

The new cabinet seems to be so flexible that, in comparison with the previous one, at least four ministers will resign or be forced to resign for any reason, be that to avoid a grilling motion or to make urgent political adaptations. This government is flexible enough to 'absorb' a magnitude eight parliamentary quake regardless of whether it is intentional or not. The current government formation and the way portfolios have been distributed indicate that it can resist all sorts of political shocks.

The first grilling motion will give a full review of lawmakers' attitudes, namely of those who have not, so far, showed any clearly defined political affiliations. The first motion will end up making a limited reshuffle. Further motions will be subjected to the ups and downs of referral to the legislative or constitutional committees. So, the motion to be filed by the opposition will carry no surprises and the scenarios are very predictable.

However, if at any point a grilling motion is filed by a pro-government MP, it could lead to constitutionally dissolving the parliament after filing a motion of lack of cooperation with the government. According to the current parliamentary structure, grilling motions filed by any opposition MP against any minister will not have any significant impact regardless of how important the issue discussed is.

The motion will not get enough majority support to knock off grilled minister. But if the motion is filed by a pro-government MP, the parliament will be dissolved within a week without further discussion. This raises a question whether this parliament will be annulled or not. As a matter of fact, 21 candidates have so far filed contests and any of these can lead to dissolving the parliament, though this is not likely to happen, especially since the contests are based on vote-counts and they can replace some MPs but are expected to find a strong legal loophole to get the parliament annulled.

A constitutional dissolution is not likely to happen, though the door is open for that, because this parliament has limited opposition. All grilling motions are controlled by the government. Finally, like I previously predicted, this parliament will only last for six months but now I believe it will not even last that long.

— Translated by Kuwait Times

### Crime

Report

#### FORGED VISA RESULTS IN THREE ARRESTS

**KUWAIT:** Residency detectives arrested an Egyptian mandoub (company representative), a Moroccan woman and a Syrian man for questioning in a forgery case. The case revolves around a suspected forgery of a visit visa. The visit visa was issued in the name of a man but then changed to a woman's name. A security source said the Egyptian mandoub allegedly received a KD 1,000 bribe for facilitating the woman's entry. The Syrian man said he was in Morocco and met the girl and planned to marry her, and denied involvement in forgery, saying that all he asked for was a service for the money. The woman said that she is in love with the Syrian who asked her to come to Kuwait.

#### Purse theft in hospital

Hawally prosecutor ordered an investigation into a theft case after a receptionist at a private hospital reported her purse stolen. The woman said she was busy with patients when someone stole her purse and fled. Detectives will review cameras to identify the alleged thief.

#### Drunk driver arrested

A man who does not have a driver's license was arrested and taken to Maidan Hawally police station for allegedly driving while intoxicated. The arrest was made on the Arabian Gulf Road. He was remanded in custody pending further action.

#### Fugitives caught

Farwaniya police arrested a wanted citizen on four civil cases and one attempted murder case. He also had an imported liquor bottle with him. He was sent to concerned authorities. Separately, a Libyan man was arrested in Salmiya. The man is wanted for a two year jail sentence on drugs charges.

#### Thefts

A felony case was filed when a woman told police a citizen named (M.A) stole her phone. Meanwhile in an unrelated case, a thief stole the license plate of a car, along with its back wheels, and a computer which was in the trunk. The theft occurred at Jahra Hospital's parking lot.

#### Man beats girlfriend

A citizen beat his girlfriend because she did not tell him she was traveling, then took away her mobile phone. The woman went to the local police station, filed a case and press charges against her boyfriend. Police are investigating.

#### Woman robbed

A citizen reported to police that her housemaid robbed her KD 800-worth jewelry and absconded. Detectives are investigating. — Translated from the Arabic press





## **ABK SPONSORS SPORT ACHIEVEMENTS EVENT AT AL-MA'AREFA ATHLETICS TOURNAMENT** MAJOR SPORTING TOURNAMENT FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

متن التعد ahli united bank

**KUWAIT:** Al-Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) supported the 5th Al Ma'arefa Athletics Tournament for people with special needs, which was held on recently at the Youth and Sport Stadium in Manqaf. The event turned out to be a special day enjoyed by the competitors and supporters who had come to cheer on their teams. Sporting teams from a record twenty four educational institutes across Kuwait took part in this year's tournament, all competing for a place on the victory podium in a range of traditional athletic disciplines that included shot-put, high-jump, long-jump and various track events.

At the end of the tournament, a special ceremony was held for winners to receive their trophies and commemorative medals from Talal Khalifa Al Jeri, Al Jeri Holding Group and Ali Al Baghli ABK's Senior Manager - Corporate Communications. ABK is a committed member of Kuwait's community, actively engaged in supporting a wide variety of events, especially those that focus on special needs. For more information about Al-Ahli Bank of Kuwait please visit eahli.com or contact a customer service agent via 'Ahlan Ahli' at 1899899.

Your

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Our Goal



KUWAIT: Faisal Al-Qanaie, Secretary of Kuwait Journalists Association (KJA), released his annual calendar commemorating the memory of martyr Sheikh Fahad Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

## AUB ATMS EQUIPPED TO ACCOMMODATE SPECIAL NEEDS CUSTOMERS' REQUIREMENTS

**KUWAIT:** In line with its overall objectives of supporting special needs customers as well as the Central Bank of Kuwait's (CBK) guidelines to provide a full range of financial services to special needs customers while also facilitating their overall banking experience, Ahli United Bank (AUB) announced today that its branches and selected ATMs are fully equipped to accommodate special needs customers with different forms of disabilities. The Bank has developed a number of innovative platforms which aim to simplify customers' overall experience, whether they are in wheel chairs, are visually impaired or aurally challenged.

AUB's latest development comes as part of its efforts to facilitate banking services for all special needs customers. Across its branches in Kuwait, the Bank's ATMs have been equipped with the latest technologies and facilities to accommodate for customers' needs. These include Mishref, Qadsiya, Farwaniya, Sabah Al-Salem, Ahmadi, Jahra and Al-Ayoun branches, as well as Head Office branch. AUB has activated voice guidance technology across its ATMs, in an effort to provide visually impaired customers with highly improved access to the Bank's wide range of banking services. This new service activates when headphones are plugged into the standard audio jack. The main ATM screen blacks out to provide more privacy for visually impaired customers.

The new applications and technology based services that are installed across AUB's ATMs aim at providing an easy and more simplified banking service to special needs customers with various forms of disabilities, while enabling to conduct their personal transactions in a safe environment.

AUB's ATMs include a wide range of features such voice guidance in English and Arabic, Braille keypads, large fonts and specially designed screens with contrasting backgrounds to provide an easy-to-read experience. In addition, our ATM vestibules are designed such that the ATM height is at appropriate levels for customers with wheelchairs.

A number of the Bank's ATMs in select branches are placed in highly specialized glass rooms to ensure customers' privacy. When using the ATM automatic doors equipped with sensors will prevent other customers from entering the ATM vestibule until customers have completed their transactions and have departed the area. Features include an emergency button that alerts the Bank's security and opens doors immediately when required.

Huda Al-Madani, AUB's Assistant General Manager- Alternative Distribution Channels said, "We are very pleased to continue driving more service innovation to cater to all segments of society across Kuwait. Our efforts align with those of the Central Bank to reflect an all-encompassing understanding and benefits of financial transactions to all members of society. At AUB, we continue to accommodate and adapt to the latest technological breakthroughs that help facilitate special needs customers' banking experience."



## China says it seized US Navy drone to ensure safety of ships



How Trump has upended Washington politics as usual Page 10

Page 12



IDLIB, Syria: In this file photo released on October 17, 2015, and provided by the Fursan al-Haq Syrian rebel brigade, which has been authenticated based on its contents and other AP reporting, Free Syrian Army fighters of Fursan al-Haq Brigade hold a banner. —AP

## IDLIB LIKELY TO BE SYRIA'S NEXT BLOODY THEATER

### PROVINCE PACKED WITH TENS OF THOUSANDS OF REBELS

**BEIRUT:** The battle for Aleppo has gripped the world, but it is hardly the only active front across war-torn Syria. One of the next targets for the forces of Syrian President Bashar Assad will probably be the heartland of rebel territory, the neighboring province of Idlib.

The province west of Aleppo is a stronghold of al-Qaeda's Syria affiliate and is now also packed with tens of thousands of rebels, many of them evacuated from other parts of the country, making it likely to be an even more bloody theater than Aleppo.

Idlib has direct links to the Turkish border, and is located only a few kilometers north of Hama, a central province and key point for defending Assad's coastal strongholds and nearby Russian military bases.

Asked where he will turn to next, Assad has suggested his first priority, after fortifying the area around Aleppo city, would be Idlib. "Identifying which city comes next depends on which city contains the largest number of terrorists and which city provides other countries with the opportunity to support them logistically," he told Russian media outlets in an interview in Damascus this week.

"Currently, there are direct links between Aleppo and Idlib because of the presence of Jabhat al-Nusra inside and on the outskirts of Aleppo and in Idlib," he said, a reference to the al-Qaeda affiliate, formerly known as the Nusra Front, now the Fatah al-Sham Front. He added that the decision about what comes next will be made through discussions with his Russian and Iranian allies.

The government's loss of Jisr al-Shughour, in the westernmost corner of the province, and with it the whole of Idlib province, in the summer of 2015, was what prompted Russia to intervene to shore up Assad's forces, eventually turning the war's momentum back in his favor.

#### Syria's Kandahar?

For the past two years, as Assad pursued a policy of siege and local truces to force surrenders, thousands of rebels and opposition supporters have been deported to Idlib - a forced exile that many see as a calculated attempt to gather the fighters in one location where they can later be eliminated.

The province has welcomed thousands of Islamic militants - with varying degrees of extremist ideology - who have converged along with their families from the central city of Homs and the suburbs of Damascus, after capitulating to government forces. It has become a common sight: Men receiving a hero's welcome as they step off the green buses in Idlib with guns slung over their shoulders, having been forced to leave besieged and bombarded towns and cities.

"The government wants to prepare people, psychologically, for the idea that Idlib is the Kandahar of Syria," said Ibrahim Hamidi, a journalist who covers Syrian affairs for the Saudi-owned newspaper Al Hayat.

He was referring to Kandahar province in Afghanistan, the base of the militant Taliban's 1996-2001 government. He said the presence of so many Islamic militants would make it easier for the government and its allies to later justify a massive assault.

The province has the most powerful concentration of rebels. According to the Institute for the Study of War, it boasts more than 50,000 fighters regrouped under the umbrella organization Jaish al-Fatah, or Army of Conquest, which is led by the al-Qaeda affiliate. Using Idlib as a launching pad, the group briefly broke the government's siege of eastern Aleppo in August.

#### Open lines to Turkey

Idlib is one of the few regions in Syria where the Islamic State group and the government have no presence, save for two small government-controlled Shiite-majority villages. The province borders Turkey, a key sponsor of Syrian rebels, and the coastal province of Latakia, a government stronghold.

Access to the Turkish border means virtually everything is available in Idlib - including weapons and other supplies.

Yezid Sayigh, a senior fellow at the Carnegie Middle East Center in Beirut, said a major point in the Idlib battle will be the role that Turkey will play, since the opposition survives on continuous replenishment of supplies from Turkey.

He added that if Turkey decides for various reasons - perhaps as part of an understanding with Russia - to reduce that assistance, then the Turkish border with Idlib would become like the Jordanian border with Daraa, where the armed opposition has very little ability to take independent action or to survive in the long run.

#### al-Qaeda stronghold

Members of the opposition fear that government and Russian warplanes will eventually carpet bomb Idlib under the pretext that it is a stronghold of al-Qaeda-linked extremists. The Fatah al-Sham Front's leadership is based there, perhaps making western powers more inclined to turn a blind eye to a massive military campaign targeting the province.

Since July 2015, US aircraft have killed some of al-Qaeda's most senior figures in strikes on Idlib, including Kuwait-born Mohsen al-Fadli, Sanafi al-Nasr of Saudi Arabia and Ahmed Salama Mabrouk of Egypt, who was killed in early October. They belonged to what U.S. officials call the Khorasan group, which Washington describes as an internal branch of al-Qaeda that plans attacks against Western interests.

"The regime wants Idlib to become another Raqqa," said Hassan al-Dughaim, a Turkey-based Syrian preacher and researcher from Idlib, who lived there for most of his life until last year. The Syrian city of Raqqa is the de facto capital of the IS group's self-styled caliphate. Idlib city serves a similar function for al-Qaeda.

Al-Dughaim said the Syrian government hopes that the presence of so many militants from different groups will lead to infighting. But despite the steady flow of fighters such confrontations have been rare.

Faysal Itani, a resident fellow at the Atlantic Council, agrees. "By lumping the displaced hostile populations in with the extremists, you've basically confined the problem to one place," he said. "Once that is done, the regime will go after it hard and no one will be able to make

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INTERNATIONAL \_\_\_\_

## US ROLE IN IRAQ FIVE YEARS SINCE MILITARY WITHDRAWAL

**BAGHDAD:** Five years since the American military completed its withdrawal from Iraq, US forces are once again playing a major role in the country as part of the war against the Islamic State jihadist group.

Here a three key questions on the fifth anniversary of US troops leaving Iraq. Why did US forces leave in 2011?

After a nearly nine-year presence, negotiations on the United States leaving a residual training force in Iraq after the end of 2011 broke down over the issue of American forces having legal immunity from Iraqi prosecution, which Washington demanded and Baghdad was reluctant to provide. The US then announced that American forces would depart, an operation that was completed on December 18, 2011 when the last convoy of armored vehicles crossed into neighboring Kuwait.

The withdrawal brought political benefits to both Washington and Baghdad: US President Barack Obama wanted to end the Iraq war, which he had opposed, and the withdrawal also allowed then-premier Nuri al-Maliki's government to claim credit for ending the unpopular American presence in the country.

Some American military personnel and contractors did however remain in Iraq under US embassy authority as part of the

Office of Security Cooperation - Iraq, which worked on training the country's forces and helping it field American military equipment.

#### What went wrong?

Prior to the withdrawal, American officials repeatedly stated that Iraqi forces were ready to handle internal security, but unrest worsened considerably in the years after their departure, culminating in the disastrous IS offensive in 2014.

One of the main reasons for the rising violence was widespread anger among Iraq's Sunni Arab minority, members of which complained of being marginalized and targeted by the Shiite-led government. This anger-which was stoked by military raids and detentions in Sunni areas, efforts to arrest several prominent Sunni politicians, and a sometimes heavy-handed response to anti-government protestsincreased sympathy for militant groups and made it easier for them to operate.

According to the US, Iraqi forces did not carry out the necessary training to maintain their readiness after American forces left-a view corroborated in an Iraqi parliamentary report on causes of the fall of second city Mosul to IS.

The civil war in neighboring Syria, which broke out in 2011, also provided a key safe

haven for jihadists to regroup, expand their ranks, train, and gain combat experience.

#### What are US forces doing in Iraq now?

American military forces are carrying out air and artillery strikes against IS in Iraq as part of a US-led coalition against the jihadists, and have provided training, advice and other assistance to Baghdad's forces.

American special forces personnel have also fought IS on the ground, and three members of the US military have been killed in the country. There are about 5,000 American military personnel in Iraq, according to the coalition. —AFP

## DISPLACED IRAQIS LONG FOR HOME, BUT RETURN RISKY

## BOMBS LEFT BY JIHADISTS TO BLAME

HASSAN SHAM CAMP, Iraq: Iraqi civilians displaced by the battle to recapture Mosul long to return home but bombs left by jihadists and ongoing fighting makes going back now a dangerous proposition.

More than 100,000 Iraqis have fled their homes since the massive operation to recapture Mosul from the Islamic State (IS) group was launched on October 17, and the battle is far from over. identity card proving he is from a village that was recently retaken from IS. "I was searched, my identity was checked and then I was recorded. Now my name is on the list of displaced and I cannot move," he says, adding that he had tried to leave the camp several times but was prevented from doing so.

Nearby, a teenager shivering in the cold is angered that he cannot return to his nearby house, rather than have

#### **Risking lives to return**

"At least we would have a real roof. Here, there is hardly anything to eat," while outside, his father could have found work to support the family.

From inside the fences surrounding camps for displaced people in northern Iraq, life outside may seem much better. But waiting to make sure of stability and that bombs have been removed is the safer course. "Often we see places being announced retaken "Before people return, they need to have all the information necessary to make an informed decision," she said, noting that there may not be "enough aid, not enough service infrastructure (and) they feel forced to leave."

In and around the city of Mosul, things are far from safe or secure. Iraqi soldiers and police say IS jihadists rigged many everyday household items with explosives before they left, such as a phone, a copy of the Quran, the Muslim holy book, and even a teddy bear.

#### Possible target for jihadists

And while fighting is still ongoing, civilians are not always welcome because the security forces fear that jihadists may seek to use them or infiltrate them. Even after an area is retaken and secured, it may not be fit for habitation: infrastructure may be damaged, businesses shuttered, and people left reliant on humanitarian aid.

Aid organizations say they are hesitant to distribute relief supplies in some areas lest a crowd of civilians become a target for IS. "The majority of internally displaced persons seem keen to return home, motivated by a desire to return to normality and the need to control and safeguard their property," said Jenny sparks of the International Organization for Migration.

But "the scale and speed of returns can pose a particular challenge, especially to communities already made politically and economically fragile as a result of the recent occupation by IS and military operations," Sparks said.

Abdulla noted that in Fallujah, a



AMONA, Palestinian Territories: Israeli Housing Minister Yoav Galant (C-L) visits the settlement outpost of Amona, which was established in 1997 and built on private Palestinian land, in the Israeli-occupied West Bank yesterday. —AFP

## ISRAELI SETTLERS ACCEPT OUTPOST RELOCATION DEAL

AMONA OUTPOST, Palestinian Territories:

Residents of a wildcat settlement in the Israeli-occupied West Bank voted on yesterday to evacuate their hilltop outpost peacefully, a week before a court-imposed deadline for their eviction.

They approved a revised government proposal to relocate by a vote of 45 for and 29 against, a spokesperson wrote on the outpost's Twitter account. The 40 families living at Amona in the northern West Bank faced a Supreme Court order to leave the site by December 25 because it was found to have been built on private Palestinian land.

The dispute over whether to demolish the outpost northeast of Ramallah has taken on international importance because of concern over settlement expansion in the West Bank, occupied by Israel since 1967.

All Israeli settlements in the West Bank,

media at Israel's weekly cabinet meeting.

#### Stay of execution

He has been seeking a way out of an impasse which has put him between the court and the legal opinion of his own attorney general on one hand, and the anger of settlers who are a key part of his political constituency on the other.

Netanyahu will now need to go back to the court and ask for a stay of execution, probably 30 days, for the new plan to be implemented. Baruch Marzel, a hardline nationalist and follower of the late racist rabbi Meir Kahane, said the Amona settlers should not have accepted Netanyahu's offer. "Given the way pressure was inflicted on them, I can only feel sorrow that they accepted Netanyahu's word when it has no value," he said in Hebrew during a visit to the extense.



HASAN SHAM, Iraq: This file photo taken on December 16, 2016 shows displaced Iraqi women and children from the embattled city of Mosul arriving at the Sewdinan camp for internally displaced persons. —AFP

Hisham, in his 20s, cannot stand life in the Hassan Sham camp anymore. "I am not asking anything from anyone, just let me leave this camp and go home," Hisham says.

He waves his arms, brandishing his

to live squeezed into a tent in the camp alongside his father, mother and four siblings. "Our house is in the village of Hassan Sham and we are in the camp of Hassan Sham," says the teenager, who declined to give his name. and safe for return very quickly," said t Becky Bakr Abdulla of the Norwegian c Refuge Council aid group.

But in reality, people may be "risking their lives to return home, because it's not safe or secure," Abdulla said.

city west of Baghdad that was recaptured from IS nearly six months ago, only around 10 percent of homes are fit for habitation. "For a sustainable solution and stabilization effort, we're looking at years, and a lot more funding," she said. —AFP including annexed east Jerusalem, are seen as illegal under international law, but Israel differentiates between those it has approved and those it has not.

Despite the prospect of forceable eviction by the army, the Amona residents had turned down a compromise deal on Thursday aimed at meeting their objections while also obeying the court ruling.

Vowing "passive resistance", residents had been fortifying the outpost since then, building barricades, drilling into floors and welding obstacles, an AFP reporter said. Hundreds of non-residents joined them in solidarity, they said. Yesterday, they were offered a new deal after an all-night meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. "Until dawn this morning we made very great efforts to reach an agreed solution on Amona," Netanyahu told ministers and the outpost.

Residents also had mixed feelings, with some protest leaders speaking out against the deal to applause from the youngsters. Others simply drifted quietly away from the site. Tweets from a settlement spokesman gave no details of the offer, but the head of the Amona "struggle committee" said it was an improvement on the previous proposal. "I think that this draft is better, very much better, than the previous one presented to us," he told Israeli army radio, without elaborating.

Media said the latest draft proposed moving 24 of the 40 families to plots adjacent to the current site that are not covered by the Supreme Court ruling. However, Israeli rights group Yesh Din said a Palestinian claimant to one of those alternative plots has come forward, raising the prospect of a new legal battle. —AFP

## RIGHTS GROUP: STATE-BACKED Iraqi militia killed IS captives

**IRBIL, Iraq:** A militia backed by the Iraqi government killed suspected Islamic State fighters captured during the operation to retake Mosul, Human Rights Watch said yesterday.

The Hashed al-Jabour militia, made up of Sunni tribal fighters, killed four men it had captured in a village north of Mosul in November, according to a report published by the New York-based group. The report cited witnesses who said the men were shot in the presence of Iraqi security forces without any judicial proceedings.

The militia is part of the Popular Mobilization Forces, a group of mainly Shiite militias sanctioned by the government which have been accused of abuses during past campaigns against IS, a Sunni extremist group.

Iraqi government spokesman Saad al-Hadithi

said authorities were unaware of the incident, but were committed to arresting and trying anyone suspected of human rights violations. "Generally speaking, retaliations could happen in some areas by the locals (in the PMF) who had family members and relatives killed by Daesh before the entering of government security forces," al-Hadithi said, using the Arabic acronym of IS. "Such acts are totally rejected by the Iraqi government and are fully investigated, and those behind it face trials."

In comments broadcast on state television Saturday, Iraq's Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi said he had not received any "complaints" about the Popular Mobilization Forces. He said the Mosul fight was "clean," and moving forward at a "good pace." The Mosul offensive involves tens of thousands of Iraqi soldiers and police, as well as Kurdish fighters, Shiite militias and Sunni tribesmen. Iraqi forces have seized around a quarter of the city - the country's second largest - since the operation began Oct. 17.

The International Organization for Migration said Sunday that at least 103,872 people have fled their homes since the operation began. The city was still home to more than a million people when the offensive began two months ago.

Human Rights Watch has previous accused Sunni militias participating in the Mosul operation of recruiting boys younger than 18 for the fight. The group has also accused the Shiite militias operating under the PMF of abuses against civilians in majority Sunni towns and cities. The prime minister's office has investigated individual militiamen after past allegations. —AP

## FORMER ISRAELI PRESIDENT SET FOR EARLY RELEASE AFTER YEARS IN JAIL FOR RAPE

**JERUSALEM:** Disgraced former Israeli president Moshe Katsav, who has been serving a seven-year prison sentence for rape, was yesterday set for early release after five years behind bars, a parole board order said. But the release of Katsav has been delayed by at least a week while state prosecutors consider whether to appeal against the parole board's decision.

Katsav left office in 2007 and was convicted of raping an aide when he was a cabinet minister in the late 1990s. He was also convicted of molesting or sexually harassing two other women employees during his 2000-2007 term as president.

Katsav, a former member of the right-wing Likud party, was jailed in 2011. He had for a long time denied any wrongdoing and was turned down for early release on two previous occasions.

In its decision yesterday, the board wrote that since the first failed hearing, Katsav had "travelled a long path, had benefited from prison therapy services and had recognized and regretted his actions against the women and the pain he had caused them."

Katsav's lawyers told reporters that he broke down in tears after hearing the board's decision to release him. —Reuters



RIYADH: (LtoR) British Minister for the Middle East, Tobias Ellwood; UAE Foreign Minister, Abdullah bin Zayed; Saudi Minister of Foreign Affairs Adel al-Jubeir; US Secretary of State John Kerry; Omani Foreign Minister, Yusuf bin Alawi and UN special envoy to Yemen Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed pose for a family picture during a meeting of the Quartet on the situation in Yemen, yesterday in Riyadh. —AFP

## BUSES ENTER REBEL ALEPPO TO RESUME EVACUATIONS

**ALEPPO, Syria:** Dozens of buses began entering the last rebel-held parts of Aleppo yesterday to resume the evacuation of thousands of increasingly desperate trapped Syrian civilians and rebels.

The operation was suspended on Friday, a day after convoys of evacuees had begun leaving the rebel sector under a deal allowing the regime to take full control of the battleground city. Buses started entering several districts on Sunday under the supervision of the Red Crescent and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) "to bring the remaining terrorists and their families out," state news agency SANA said, referring to the rebels.

A military source confirmed to AFP that a new evacuation deal had been reached. State television said 100 buses would take people out of Aleppo. The main obstacle to a resumption had been a disagreement over the number of people to be evacuated in parallel from two Shiite villages, Fuaa and Kafraya, under rebel siege in northwestern Syria.

A rebel representative told AFP that a new agreement had been reached under which evacuations would take place in two phases from Aleppo, Fuaa and Kafraya as well as Zabadani and Madaya, two regime-besieged rebel towns in Damascus province.

Around two dozen gunmen attacked buses sent to evacuate people from Fuaa and Kafraya, but a senior military source said the incident should not disrupt the Aleppo evacuations. An AFP reporter said they made the drivers get out, opened fire on the vehicles and set fire to the fuel tanks of at least 20 buses.

#### **UN Security Council vote**

In New York, the UN Security Council was set to meet at 1600 GMT to vote on French proposals to send monitors to Aleppo to oversee evacuations and report on the protection of civilians.

The draft text said the council was "alarmed" by the worsening humanitarian crisis and by the fact that "tens of thousands of besieged Aleppo inhabitants" are in need of aid and evacuation. "Our goal through this resolution is to avoid another Srebrenica in this phase immediately following the military operations," French Ambassador Francois Delattre told AFP, referring to a 1995 Bosnian war massacre.

But the proposals face resistance from veto-wielding Russia, a key backer of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. Russian President Vladimir Putin's special envoy to Syria made a previously unannounced visit to Iran on Sunday for talks with top officials on the Syrian conflict.

Families have been sheltering during the night in freezing temperatures in bombed out apartment blocks in Aleppo's Al-Amiriyah district, the departure point for evacuations before they were halted.

An AFP correspondent who visited a hospital in the rebel sector saw appalling conditions with patients lying on the floor without food or water and almost no heating.

Abu Omar said that after waiting outside in the cold for nine hours the previous day, he had returned on Saturday only to be told the buses were not coming. "There's no more food or drinking water, and the situation is getting worse by the day," he said, adding that his four children were sick because of the cold. —AFP

## Kuwait 🗻 Times 🌆

## INTERNATIONAL

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2016

## **UN SECURITY COUNCIL TO** VOTE ON ALEPPO OBSERVERS

UNITED NATIONS: The UN Security Council will vote on a French proposal to send observers to the flashpoint Syrian city of Aleppo to monitor evacuations and report on the protection of civilians, diplomats said.

The council will meet at to decide on the draft resolution, despite resistance from Russia, Syria's ally and a veto-wielding Security Council member. France circulated a draft text late Friday stating that the council is "alarmed" by the worsening humanitarian crisis in Aleppo and by the fact that "tens of thousands of besieged Aleppo inhabitants" are in need of aid and evacuation.

Thousands of trapped civilians and the last remaining opposition fighters in Aleppo were waiting for evacuations to resume on Saturday, a day after the operation was suspended by the Syrian government.

Syrian forces this week moved to assert full control over the east of the city, which had been held by opposition fighters since 2012. French Ambassador Francois Delattre said the international presence would prevent Aleppo from turning into another Srebrenica, where thousands of Bosnian men and boys were massacred in 1995 when the town fell to Bosnian Serb forces during the Balkan wars. "Our goal through this resolution is to avoid another Srebrenica in this phase immediately following the military operations," Delattre told AFP.

The draft resolution would request that UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon quickly redeploy UN humanitarian staff already in Syria to the city "to carry out adequate, neutral monitoring, direct observation and to report on evacuations from besieged parts of Aleppo and protection of civilians inside Aleppo," according to a copy of the text obtained by AFP.

Ban would also ensure the deployment

of further staff, according to the draft text, which demands that Syria grant access to the observers.

The UN chief would report to the council within five days on whether access has been granted by the Syrian government, which has repeatedly blocked UN access during the nearly six-year war.

#### **Protecting hospitals**

Evacuations were expected to resume under a new deal that would allow civilians and fighters in other besieged towns to leave, according to rebel officials, according to rebel officials. The Damascus government made no announcements.

The draft resolution would seek to ensure the "voluntary, safe and dignified passage of all civilians" from Aleppo and other areas under UN monitoring and coordination, with priority given to the wounded and most vulnerable.

It demands the protection of all doctors, medical workers, hospitals and ambulances following reports that Syrian forces had bombed all of the medical facilities in Aleppo.

The text specifically mentions the need to protect the border hospitals of Atmeh, Darkoush, Bab al-Hawa and Bab al-Salamah, where many of the evacuees would be taken.

The council would also demand that urgent humanitarian aid reach Aleppo, which has been under siege since July. US Ambassador Samantha Power said Friday that the observers on the ground would provide a "presence as protection." But Russian Ambassador Vitaly Churkin said he found elements of the French proposal "questionable," including whether the observers could be quickly redeployed.

Ban has urged Syrian parties to resume the evacuation operation and allow civilians to leave safely, saying "Aleppo is now a synonym for hell." — AFP

NEW YORK: This United Nations photo shows UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon as he addresses a press conference, his last at United Nations headquarters, as his term of office draws to a close at the end of the year on December 16, 2016.—AFP

### **PROSECUTORS: FBI AGENT LEAKED** INFO IN TRADING CASE TO MEDIA



GENEVA: A man wearing a mask of US elected President Donald Trump and a toy gun swims in the lake during the 78th "Coupe de Noel" (Christmas cup) swimming race in the Lake Geneva yesterday. —AFP

## US ELECTORAL COLLEGE, ARCHAIC AND UNLOVED, PREPARES TO ANOINT TRUMP

### DECISION TO BE ANNOUNCED TODAY

**WASHINGTON:** Donald Trump's fiercest critics may be dreaming of a last-minute revolt, but the Electoral College, a peculiarly American institution, appears near-certain today to select the 70-year-old real estate mogul as the 45th US president.

Its detractors-and they are many-have denounced an electoral system that flies in the face of the venerated "one man, one vote" principle, and which perversely encourages presidential candidates to campaign in only a few key states while ignoring whole swaths of the country. But despite the torrent of criticism this method has faced for decades, no reform attempt has ever succeeded.

When American voters cast their ballots on November 8, they did not in fact directly elect the next occupant of the White House. Instead, they picked 538 "electors" charged with translating their wishes into reality. Trump won a clear majority of those electors - 306, with 270 needed for election-despite dramatically losing the popular vote to his Democratic rival, Hillary Clinton.

A similar scenario took place in 2000, when George W Bush became president even though Democrat Al Gore won more popular votes. However, the gap is far more dramatic in 2016, with Clinton scoring nearly three million extra votes over Trump.

expressed wishes of the majority of voters in their district. And never have the votes of these "faithless electors" changed the outcome of a presidential election.

Still, some Democrats-who see a Trump presidency as presenting an existential danger to American democracy-are clinging to the slender hope that a few dozen Republican electors might decide not to vote for their party's populist leader.

Yet, should that happen, it would be up to the House of Representatives to designate the successor to Barack Obama. And Republicans hold a strong majority there. An online petition calling on electors to reject Trump, has collected some five million supporters. Hollywood stars including Martin Sheen ("President Bartlet" on the popular television series "West Wing") recently released a video to goad electors to take that step.

"You have the position, the authority and the opportunity to go down in the books as an American hero who changed the course of history," the celebrities say, addressing electors who have been thrust overnight from the shadows into the spotlight.

But these efforts appear to have almost no chance of succeeding: There is no evidence that the requisite 37 Republican electors will decide to abandon Trump. To date, only one of them, Christopher Suprum of Texas, has publicly announced his intention to stage such a revolt. The final result may not be known today, as states are given several days to report their numbers. The Congress will, in any case, announce the name of the official winner on January 6, two weeks before the next president is to be inaugurated in a solemn and pomp-filled ceremony

#### A 'disaster' or bit of 'genius'?

Asked about it at his final news conference of the year before leaving for a Hawaiian vacation, Barack Obama acknowledged that the system was "a vestige, it's a carry-over from an earlier vision of how our federal government was going to work," and that it could disadvantage Democrats.

Still, the outgoing president urged his camp to draw needed lessons from their electoral failure and develop a strategy for the future rather than bemoaning the 2016 loss or trying to overturn it. "The truth of the matter is that if we have a strong message, if we're speaking to what the American people care about, typically, the popular vote and the Electoral College vote will align," he said in a clear allusion to his own presidential victories in 2008 and 2012.

David Pozen, a professor at Columbia Law School, sees at least one silver lining to the intense focus on the Electoral College: it will draw attention to the urgent need for change. "Either way, the renewed public interest in the Electoral College underscores the need to do away with this antiquated and fundamentally undemocratic institution," he said in an op-ed article in the New York Times.

In November 2000, Hillary Clinton, then the

**NEW YORK:** Federal prosecutors say an FBI agent has acknowledged leaking confidential information to reporters about an insider trading investigation involving a professional gambler.

The US attorney in New York told a federal judge Friday that the unnamed agent confessed to being a source for The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times regarding Las Vegas gambler William Walters. Walters had asked the judge to

determine the source of the leaks. The letter from US Attorney Preet Bharara says the matter has been referred to oversight offices in the US Justice Department and the FBI.

Walters has pleaded not guilty to charges he made millions of dollars in illicit stock trades, including one involving golfer Phil Mickelson. Mickelson was spared criminal charges and agreed to repay the money. —AP

Today, electors will convene in each of the 50 states, plus the District of Columbia, to officially designate the next president and vice president. Following an extraordinarily vitriolic campaign, this step in the electoral process-normally little more than a formality-has been thrust into the spotlight.

#### 'Faithless electors'

Historically, electors only rarely defy the outside the Capitol.

newly elected Democratic senator from New York, issued a clear call for an electoral reform that would result in direct, universal suffrage.

Trump, for his part, has radically changed his stance on the matter in just four years. "The Electoral College is a disaster for a democracy," he tweeted in November 2012. Last month, just days after a victory that seemed to stun even him, he sounded a rather different note: "The Electoral College is actually genius in that it brings all states, including the smaller ones, into play. Campaigning is much different!"—AFP

# BIDEN, MOURNERS PAY TRIBUTE TO JOHN GLENN, AMERICAN HERO

Marine Corps general were among the dignitaries, family members and other mourners who choked up Saturday during a memorial tribute to the late space hero John Glenn. Roughly 2,500 people gathered at Mershon Auditorium on the Ohio State University campus for "a celebration of life" for the former fighter pilot, history -making astronaut and longtime Democratic US senator from smalltown Ohio. He was remembered not only for bravery, but for his thoughtful consideration for others, his integrity and his patriotic optimism. "I think John defined what it meant to be an American, what we were about, just by how we acted," said Vice President Joe Biden, a former colleague of Glenn's in the US Senate. "It was always about the promise. We were a country of possibility, opportunity, always a belief in tomorrow."

Retired USMC Gen. John Dailey said Glenn was "never in

**COLUMBUS:** The nation's vice president and a retired it for himself," but always acted for the nation's greater good. Like many others, he recalled Glenn's humility and basic kindness. "We had John for 95 great years and it still wasn't enough," Dailey said.

#### A man of firsts

Glenn died Dec. 8 at age 95. He was the first American to orbit the Earth in 1962, and then in 1998 became the oldest person in space at 77. Thousands of people, including Democratic US Secretary of State John Kerry, visited the Ohio Statehouse on Friday as Glenn lay in honor. A solemn funeral procession through the center of the capital city carried his casket past more mourners willing to withstand cold and ice.

Ethel Kennedy, widow of close Glenn ally Robert F. Kennedy, and their son Robert F. Kennedy Jr., were among the mourners present, along with Ohio political leaders



COLOMBUS: The casket of John Glenn is carried out of the Ohio Statehouse by Marines during his funeral procession on Saturday.—AP

including Gov. John Kasich and former Govs. Ted Strickland and Richard Celeste.

The service was preceded by recordings of hymns, arias and popular songs. Some - including Nat King Cole's "Smile" and Susan Boyle's version of "Impossible Dream" nodded to Glenn's trademark optimism. Others, including "You Are My Sunshine," "Moon River" and Shirley Jones singing "Goodnight, My Someone" - recalled Glenn's long love affair with wife, Annie, who survives him.

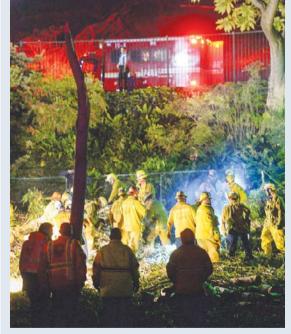
Their marriage was cited frequently as a source of Glenn's strength and an inspiration to those who have known and watched the couple for 73 years. US Sen. Sherrod Brown, a fellow Democrat who first met Glenn when he was a teenage Eagle Scout, called Glenn "an FDR Democrat" who believed in the power of government and the importance of public service - through his military and space career and his tenure in the Senate.

"He was a work horse, never a show horse," Brown said. "He labored over the details of non-proliferation and environmental cleanup of nuclear disposal sites, grunt work to some, but John was content to spend his time not on collecting instant headlines but achieving lasting results that would leave the world better than he had found it."

Brown's wife, journalist Connie Schultz, recalled his tenderness when their grandson was curious about how astronauts urinate in space. She saw it as example for the nation. "If American icon John Glenn could take the time to treat a child with such respect, surely we can find the time to listen to one another," she said.

NASA Administrator Charles Bolden Jr. said the US space program remains indebted to Glenn. "It was courage, grace and humility John displayed throughout his life that lifted him above the stars," Bolden said. "As the current head of NASA, I can say unequivocally that we are standing on John Glenn's shoulders as we pursue a human journey to Mars, a journey that would not be possible without his bravery and selfless dedication."

Glenn's son, David, said his father let him find himself and make his own mistakes - even when he came home with long hair and wearing bell bottom pants. "He might have blinked twice, or his face twitched or something like that. But that was it," he said. Daughter Lyn said she wanted an "atta girl" for some good grades she brought home at age 8, to which Glenn replied, "Yes, but what have you done for your country today?" She said Glenn refused a deal worth as much as \$5 million to have his photo placed on a Wheaties box because he saw it as making money from government service. — AFP



WHITTIER, California: Los Angeles County Fire Dept. firefighters work at the scene where a large tree fell on a wedding party on Saturday. —AP

#### WOMAN DIES AFTER TREE FALLS ON WEDDING PARTY IN CALIFORNIA

WHITTIER, California: A woman was killed and five others were injured when a large eucalyptus tree fell on a wedding party taking photographs at a Southern California park Saturday, authorities said.

Several people were trapped under the tree at Whittier's Penn Park, the Los Angeles County Fire Department said. Video from the scene showed fire crews using chain saws to cut through the downed branches.

Four of the injured suffered scrapes and bruises, officials said. A 4-year-old girl was listed in critical condition due to head trauma, the Los Angeles Times reported. Witnesses described hearing a loud crack and seeing people run from the area.

The tree could have been weakened by California's ongoing drought and recent heavy rain could have contributed to its fall, officials said. An arborist will assess the area on Sunday, officials said. No other details were immediately available. —AP

## Kuwait 🗻 Times 🌆

## AFGHAN VP FACES PROBE OVER CLAIMS OF SEX ASSAULT, TORTURE

**KABUL:** Afghanistan has launched an Jowzjan province. Dostum allegedly investigation into allegations that the country's vice president sexually assaulted a rival, in the face of mounting criticism from Western allies and activists over a pervasive culture of impunity.

Abdul Rashid Dostum, a former warlord who has a catalogue of war crimes attached to his name, is accused of abducting Ahmad Ishchi last month during a traditional game of Buzkashi, or polo with an animal carcass, in northern

kept lshchi hostage in his private compound for five days, where he was said to be tortured and sodomized. "The attorney general's office has begun its impartial and transparent investigation regarding the incident," Afghanistan's top prosecutor said in a statement late Saturday.

"The investigation will be carried out neutrally and independently." Officials are scrambling to gather evidence after the United States, European Union, Australia and Canada on Tuesday joined the chorus of calls for a thorough probe. Ishchi has undergone a medical examination since his release earlier this month at the American air base in Bagram, north of Kabul, local media reported.

Dostum has denied the allegations, but his office said he would cooperate with any investigation. It added, however, that it prefers to "resolve" the matter by the traditional mediation of tribal elders rather than through conventional courts. Observers are skeptical the government will sack or bring charges against Dostum, who has survived all previous allegations of abuse. "He is too powerful to be sacked or tried in court," said Kabul-based analyst Ahmad Saeedi told AFP. "The president is under pressure to take action, but he (Dostum) has a lot of support and influence, which the government cannot take lightly." Despite his human rights record, Dostum was invited to join the National Unity Government in 2014 in a bid by President Ashraf Ghani to attract the support of his mostly ethnic Uzbek constituency.

The latest controversy has once again drawn attention to how Afghan warlords and strongmen operate with impunity, hobbling Western-backed efforts to restore peace and rebuild the nation after decades of conflict. —AFP



MOBILE, ALABAMA: US President-elect Donald Trump greets members of the Azalea Trail Maids as he arrives in Mobile, Alabama, for a 'Thank You Tour 2016' rally on December 17, 2016. —AFP

## HOW TRUMP HAS UPENDED WASHINGTON POLITICS AS USUAL

### SHREDDING THE RULES OF AMERICAN POLITICS

**WASHINGTON:** During his unorthodox White House campaign, Donald Trump thoroughly shredded the rules of American politics, from his often coarse language to his intermittent disdain for basic concepts like freedom of the press.

Since defeating Democrat Hillary Clinton on November 8 to become the US president-elect, his title until he succeeds Barack Obama on January 20, he has made a mockery of those who said he would eventually fall in line.

While he admittedly followed protocol during

Washington University in St Louis, "the 'thank vou' tour is unusual for presidents, but it is completely consistent with his campaign style." "Every president has in some way constructed the trip to the national capital as a symbolic move, and Donald Trump is doing so in a way that is unlike all of his predecessors," he said.

#### Press conferences? No, thanks

Eight years ago, at this stage of the transition, Obama had held nearly a dozen press confer**Politics take back seat** 

Usually, state governors and US senators are the most likely choices for cabinet posts. Not this time. Trump has chosen an inner circle in his own image-mainly white, mainly male industry titans and investors, many of them millionaires and a handful of them billionaires.

Obama's team included a Nobel physics laureate. Trump has chosen three former generals.

#### **Gender equality?**

## SUSPECT IN PARIS MURDER OF KURD REBELS DIES

murdering three female Kurdish rebels in Paris died Saturday, a French judicial source said, before his case came to trial.

Omer Guney died at a hospital in the French capital following a battle with a serious brain illness, the source said. He was the only suspect sent for trial, scheduled to start next month, on charges of "murder in relation to a terrorist enterprise" over the killings of the three women, including Sakine Cansiz.

Cansiz-one of the founders of the outlawed Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) was murdered along with Fidan Dogan, 28, and 24-year-old Leyla Soylemez. The women's bodies were found in the early hours of January 10, 2013 at a Kurdish information centre. They had been shot in the head and neck. Guney denied involvement in the killings, though investigators said they had surveillance footage of him entering the crime scene and one of the victim's DNA was allegedly found on his coat.

Lawyers for the victims' families spoke of their anger at being "denied a public trial

PARIS: A Turkish national charged with which they had been waiting for almost four years". They expressed their "consternation at seeing France, one again, incapable of judging a political crime committed on French territory by foreign secret services".

Guney had been described by relatives as a Turkish ultranationalist who infiltrated the PKK in order to spy on it, with one source saying he was tasked with "eliminating PKK cadres".

In January 2014 the Turkish intelligence services officially denied any role in the killings. French investigators had concluded that members of the Turkish national intelligence agency MIT were "implicated" in the triple murder, according to an informed source. However, the investigators had been unable to establish whether the service sponsored the hit or whether agents were acting on their own initiative.

The PKK launched its insurgency against the Turkish state in 1984, initially fighting for Kurdish independence although it now focuses on greater autonomy and rights for the country's largest ethnic minority. —AFP

#### INDIA APPOINTS NEW ARMY, AIR FORCE AND INTELLIGENCE CHIEFS

NEW DELHI: The Indian government has appointed new heads of its army and air force among a series senior military and intelligence appointments, officials said, two weeks before its two most senior defence force chiefs are due to retire.

Vice Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant General Bipin Rawat was named as the new chief of the army to succeed General Dalbir Singh Suhaag. Air Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa, a fighter pilot, was chosen as the new chief of India's air force to replace Air Chief Marshal Arup Raha. The appointments were announced on Twitter by a defence ministry spokesman late on Saturday.

The appointment of Rawat, a counterinsurgency specialist, raised eyebrows among opposition parties because he was given the job ahead of two more senior candidates. "Why has seniority not been respected in appointment of Army Chief," Manish Tewari, a former govern ment minister and leader of the opposition Congress party, said on Twitter.

by Communist Party of India leader D. Raja, but a spokesman for the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) said it was not a matter for political debate. "The government appoints people to the office based on what it considers to be the most appropriate choice," BJP spokesman G.V.L. Narasimha Rao said.

Indian media reported that it was the first time since 1983 that the most senior candidate had not been chosen to replace an outgoing army chief. Rawat also has experience working along the Line of Control, the de facto border between areas controlled by India and Pakistan in the disputed Kashmir region.

The Indian government also announced senior appointments to its two main intelligence agencies. Rajiv Jain was named as the new chief of the domestic Intelligence Bureau and Anil Dhasmana as the head of India's externa intelligence agency, the Research and Analysis Wing(RAW). Both will serve for the next two years. —Reuters

his post-election visit to the White House, treating Obama with deference in the Oval Office, the Republican billionaire has otherwise blazed a new path in presidential transitions.

His style seems to indicate that the Manhattan property mogul will be a president like no other.

#### Victory tour

Candidate Trump thrived on the campaign trail at his large arena rallies. President-elect Trump has tried to recreate that atmosphere with his "thank you" tour through the swing states that propelled him to victory, wrapping up Saturday in Mobile, Alabama.

Hats with slogans, anti-Clinton chants and plenty of colorful signs? They're back. "They are saying, as president he shouldn't be doing rallies but I think we should, right?" Trump told the cheering crowd in Mobile. "We've done everything else the opposite. This is the way you get an honest word out because you can't give it to them because they are so dishonest," he added, slipping in one of his customary jabs at the media.

For Peter Kastor, a history professor at

ences, in the midst of an economic crisis. Trump has held... none.

The 70-year-old president-elect has given a handful of interviews, including three lengthy ones to CBS, The New York Times and Fox News. When Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Obama wanted to make key cabinet nominations, they introduced their chosen ones to the press.

Trump sends statements, many of them either at 6:00 am or late at night, or simply posts news on Twitter. And his incoming chief of staff Reince Priebus created a stir in the White House press corps by suggesting major changes could lie in store for the traditional daily media briefings.

#### **Reality show cabinet hunt**

The recruitment of his cabinet so far has more or less unfolded in the public eye, with most candidates forced to run the media gauntlet through the lobby of Trump Tower or at his resort properties in New Jersey or Florida.

Former Trump critic-turned-admirer Mitt Romney made the pilgrimage twice, only to be dumped as secretary of state-designate in favor of ExxonMobil CEO Rex Tillerson... who Trump only met for the first time on December 6.

Keeping the male-female divide even in

politics has always been a challenge in the United States. There were only six women given cabinet or cabinet-rank positions in Obama's first administration, but one of them was secretary of state Hillary Clinton. Trump has so far chosen four women, all for secondtier posts. The first 11 people in the order of presidential succession will be men. And so far. he has named only one African-American-Ben Carson-and no Latinos.

#### **Melania in New York**

Incoming first lady Melania Trump and the couple's 10-year-old son Barron will not move into the White House on January 20 as is customary, instead remaining in New York at least until the school year ends.

For Kastor, this is a first. "These are big cultural moments about the presidency-the transition is often the story about how this family is going to move," he told AFP. "There are all these stories about how they are packing up, and about what does it mean to move from a simple, private residence into this big, public one," Kastor added. "So this is completely unusual."—AFP

The appointment was also questioned

### **13 PEOPLE KILLED IN MILITARY** PLANE CRASH E INDONESIA

KUALA LUMPUR: Twelve Air Force personnel and a radar technician were killed in a Hercules plane crash yesterday in Jayawijaya, Papua, Indonesian authorities said.

The Hercules C-130 with flight number A-1334 Navex 32 en route from Timika to Wamena was piloted by Maj. Marlon, with 12 crew. The plane was undertaking navigation training while transporting cement and sacks of rice to people in the Tengah Mountains, the National Search and Rescue Agency's Operation Director Evan Ahmad Rizqi Titoss said in press statements.

The 13 fatalities were confirmed after a joint team from the Air Force and a search and rescue group arrived at the crash site, he added.

The plane was heavily damaged and seemed to have been razed by fire, he said, adding that all 13 people inside the plane were killed. —KUNA



NEW YORK: In this Saturday, Nov 12, 2016 file photo, UK Independence Party leader Nigel Farage smiles as he arrives at Trump Tower. —AFP

### **UK GOVERNMENT REJECTS FARAGE'S** AMBITION TO BE LINK TO TRUMP

#### ARGUES HE WOULD BE IDEAL

LONDON: The British government says it can help to be a bridge between the govdoesn't need maverick anti-European politician Nigel Farage to be its go-between with the incoming Trump administration.

Senior figures in Prime Minister Theresa May's government rejected the idea yesterday after Farage, former leader of the United Kingdom Independence Party, argued he would be ideal given his bond formed on the US presidential campaign trail with Trump. Farage told BBC radio: "I

ernment ... and not just Donald Trump, but his team and his administration. I would like to do that." International Trade Secretary Liam Fox retorted Sunday that Britain has "a perfectly good ambassador in Washington."

The US president-elect met Farage last month at Trump Tower and tweeted that Farage would make an excellent ambassador to the United States. —AP

### **CROATIA: 42 MIGRANTS** HOSPITALIZED AFTER FOUND PACKED IN VAN

ZAGREB, Croatia: Forty-two migrants were hospitalized after police in Croatia found a van crammed with 67 people, including children, traveling through the country, authorities said yesterday.

The occupants were suffering from carbonmonoxide poisoning and some were unconscious, doctors said. They were treated in local hospitals and are now out of danger, the country's health minister said. "It is a serious medical condition and it is good that they were found," minister Milan Kujundzic said in comments carried by the Hina news agency. "Most will be released but three or four will remain hospitalized for observation."

Kujundzic said two children aged 10 and 12 were among the migrants found in the van. The migrants were cold and hungry, with some saying they hadn't eaten for five days, he said. Police said they stopped the van with British plates on Saturday evening, near the town of Novska, by the border with Bosnia. Some of the migrants were packed in the van's cargo compartment, police said.

Two Bulgarian citizens are under criminal investigation for smuggling the migrants, the police statement said. It said the van was headed west, toward the capital Zagreb and on toward western Europe.

Thousands of migrants are stranded in neighboring Serbia looking for ways to reach EU countries Croatia or Hungary. Many turn to people smugglers to take them illegally across the borders. EU nations have sought to curb the influx after more than 1 million came to Europe in 2015. — AP

**ROME: Former Italian Premier Matteo Renzi delivers his speech at the Democratic** Party's national assembly yesterday.—AP

### **RENZI VOWS TO REVAMP ITALIAN** PARTY, MAKE IT MORE HUMBLE

ROME: Recently drubbed by voters, Italian ex-Premier Matteo Renzi says his Democratic Party must be more united, humble and in synch with citizens as he eyes elections expected in 2017.

Renzi resigned after voters rejected a reforms referendum on Dec. 4. As leader of the Democrats, Parliament's largest party, Renzi gave delegates a pep talk in Rome on Sunday. He says Democrats' "efficiency outstripped our empathy" toward citizens.

The No. 2 party in Parliament is the opposition, populist 5-Star Movement. Founder Beppe Grillo is scrambling to do damage control as scandals engulf some top aides to Rome's 5-Star mayor, Virginia Raggi. A 5-Star leader, Alessandro Di Battista, says sometimes "honesty and ingenuousness go hand-in-in."

The scandals are embarrassing as the party aims for national power for the first time in elections.—AP





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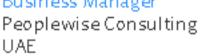
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## Kuwait 🗻 Times 🌆



## AUSTRALIA SHOULD BE REPUBLIC AFTER QUEEN ELIZABETH: PM

Malcolm Turnbull has renewed his call for a republic, but only after Queen Elizabeth II's reign, as he outlined a road map for breaking away from the British monarchy.

Turnbull-a staunch republican who led the cause before a failed referendum in 1999 — said his support for an Australian head of state stemmed from patriotism. "The cause of the Australian Republican Movement (ARM) is a cause for Australia," Turnbull said during a keynote address to the ARM on Saturday

the patriotism of those who take a different view, but we have no other motive, no other reason than love of country."

The British crown's power in Australia is seen as largely symbolic, and while the Queen is hugely popular Down Under, the monarchy is viewed by some as an anachronistic colonial relic.

Critics within Turnbull's own conservative Liberal Party earlier in the week said his support for a republic would be damaging to the government. But Turnbull said there was no appetite

SYDNEY: Australian Prime Minister night. "We do not diminish or disrespect among Australians for another referendum during Queen Elizabeth's reign.

"The less party political the republican movement is, the broader its base, the deeper its grassroots, the better positioned it will be when the issue becomes truly salient again," the Australian leader added.

**Opposition Labor leader Bill Shorten** appeared to criticize Turnbull's lack of action on Twitter following the speech. "Climate change, marriage equality, housing affordability, now Republic too hard for Turnbull. Time for the PM to lead his party, not follow," Shorten tweeted.

He also offered to "work together to deliver an Australian head of state". Support for a republic has wavered over the years, with a Fairfax-Nielsen poll in 2014 finding that 51 percent of the 1,400 people surveyed favoured the status quo compared to 42 percent supporting a republic.

Turnbull said question marks about how an Australian head of state would be elected-directly by the people or via a parliamentary appointment-had weakened support for a republic during the

1999 referendum. He called for a twostage voting process, with a plebiscite to determine the election model first before a referendum to decide on whether Australia should be a republic. "We need to ensure that the Australian people feel they have chosen the model to be presented," Turnbull said.

"Of course every member of the parliament is elected, but we cannot be blind to the levels of cynicism about politics, parliaments and governments. If anything they are greater today than they were back in 1999." — AFP



OPEN WATER: In this undated photo released by the US Navy Visual News Service, the USNS Bowditch, a T-AGS 60 Class Oceanographic Survey Ship. —AP

## CHINA SAYS IT SEIZED US NAVY DRONE TO ENSURE SAFETY OF SHIPS

### 'LET THEM KEEP IT!' SAYS TRUMP

BEIJING: China says its military seized a US Navy unmanned underwater glider in the South China Sea but it will give the drone back. But President-elect Donald Trump says the Chinese government should be told "we don't want the drone they stole back" and "let them keep it!"

This comes after United States officials had confirmed that they "secured an understanding" for the return of the device. Trump's tweet Saturday evening may extend one of the most serious incidents between the American and the Chinese militaries in years.

drone, which the Pentagon said was being operated by civilian contractors to conduct oceanic research. The US lodged a formal diplomatic complaint and demanded the drone back. Chinese Defense Ministry spokesman Yang Yuiun issued a statement late Saturday saying that a Chinese navy lifeboat discovered an unknown device in the South China Sea on Thursday. "In order to prevent this device from posing a danger to the safe navigation of passing ships and personnel, the Chinese lifeboat adopted a professional and responsible attitude in investigating and verifying the device," Yang said.

He earlier in the day had blasted the seizure. Misspelling "unprecedented," he tweeted: "China steals United States Navy research drone in international waters - rips it out of water and takes it to China in unprecedented act." He later reissued the tweet, correcting the spelling.

The US said China's "unlawful seizure" came in international waters. Yet China pointedly accused the US of long sending ships "in China's presence" to conduct "military surveying." "China is resolutely opposed to this and requests the US stop such activities," it said. "China will continue The Chinese navy on Thursday seized the to maintain vigilance against the relevant US activities and will take necessary measures to

vessel was, "We are returning to normal operations." Bonnie Glaser, senior adviser for Asia at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said the seizure of the glider occurred inside the exclusive economic zone of the Philippines, not China, and appeared to be a violation of international law.

China delineates its South China Sea claims with a roughly drawn sea border known as the "nine-dash line" that runs along the west coast of the Philippines. However, it hasn't explicitly said whether it considers those waters as sovereign territory, and says it doesn't disrupt the passage of other nations' shipping through the area. The US doesn't take a position on sovereighty claims, but insists on freedom of navigation, including the right of its naval vessels to conduct training and other operations in the sea. Davis said that the incident could be the first time in recent history that China has taken a US naval vessel. Some observers have called it the most significant dispute between the sides' militaries since the April 2001 midair collision between a US Navy surveillance aircraft and a Chinese fighter jet about 110 kilometers (70 miles) from China's Hainan island that led to the death of a Chinese pilot. The drone seizure seemed likely to fray the already tense relations between US and China. Beijing was angered by Trump's decision to talk by phone with Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen on Dec. 2, and by his later comments that he did not feel "bound by a one-China policy" regarding the status of Taiwan, unless the US could gain trade or other benefits from China. China considers the self-governing island its own territory to be recovered by force if it deems necessary. There also have been increased tensions over Beijing's ongoing military buildup in the South China Sea, mainly the development and militarization of man-made shoals and islands aimed at extending China's reach in the strategically vital area, through which about \$5 trillion in global trade passes annually. —AP

## US SAYS IT WILL WORK WITH DUTERTE AFTER LATEST OUTBURST

MANILA: The United States said yesterday it will work with the Philippine president to address any concerns after he threatened to terminate a pact that allows US troops to visit the Philippines.

President Rodrigo Duterte was enraged after a US government aid agency deferred a vote on a renewal of a major development assistance package for the Philippines over concerns about extrajudicial killings in Duterte's war on illegal drugs, which has left thousands dead.

Although no decision on the aid package has been taken, Duterte on Saturday launched an expletives-laden tirade, telling the US to "prepare to leave the Philippines, prepare for the eventual repeal or the abrogation of the Visiting Forces Agreement."

He was referring to a 1998 accord that governs American forces visiting the Philippines for joint combat exercises. The pact has helped the Philippines contain a violent Muslim insurgency in the south and train and equip Filipino forces facing an assertive China in disputed South China Sea waters. "You know, tit for tat ... if you can do this, so (can) we. It ain't a one-way traffic," Duterte said, adding tauntingly, "Bye-bye America."

#### **Overnight statement**

The US Embassy in Manila said in a statement overnight that Washington will work closely with the Duterte administration to address any concerns it may have. It did not elaborate.

The White House didn't immediately respond to a request for comment, but spokesman Josh Earnest has said previously that the White House would not react publicly each time Duterte made an offhand remark.

The 71-year-old Duterte, who describes himself as a left-wing politician, has made similar threats before and after taking office in June, but he and his officials have walked back on many of his public statements, causing confusion. While calling Americans "sons of bitches" and "hypocrites," Duterte on Saturday praised China as having "the kindest soul of all" for offering what he said was significant financial assistance.

"So, what do I need America for?" he asked. He also said Russia can be a very important ally. "They do not insult people, they do not interfere," he said. The Philippines had been slated for another aid package after its previous five-year, \$434 million poverty reduction program was successfully completed in May under Duterte's predecessor, Benigno Aquino III. A spokeswoman for the Millennium Challenge Corporation, Laura Allen, said Thursday that it would continue to monitor events in the Philippines before the next board review in March 2017.

The US decision is among the first signs of how concerns about the rule of law and human rights under Duterte could entail economic costs. The US government, along with European Union and U.N. officials, has raised concerns about Duterte's crackdown on illegal drugs, which has left more than 2,000 suspected drug users and dealers dead in purported gunbattles with police. More than 3,000 other deaths are being investigated to determine if they were linked to illegal drugs.

In a news conference in his southern hometown of Davao, Duterte was pointedly asked how many crime suspects he has killed in the past when he was still a crime-busting city mayor amid his vague and contradicting accounts of his exploits. The former government prosecutor again gave contrasting replies. "Maybe one, two three ... I'm saying, maybe my bullets hit them, maybe not, but after the burumbumbumbum, they're all dead," Duterte said.

Replying to another question, he said that he indeed has killed, but did not provide details and tried to justify his act. "When I tell you now that I killed, do not term them as suspects because all of them died while they were fighting government people."

He asked God for forgiveness in advance, saving he may not have time to

#### Appropriate means

The statement said that after confirming that the device was an American unmanned submerged device, "China decided to transfer it to the US through appropriate means." The US said that "through direct engagement with Chinese authorities, we have secured an understanding that the Chinese will return" the unmanned underwater vehicle, according to a statement from Peter Cook, spokesman for US Defense Secretary Ash Carter.

But Trump, after holding a rally to thank supporters for his election, took to Twitter to criticize the deal. "We should tell China that we don't want the drone they stole back.- let them keep it!" the president-elect tweeted Saturday evening.

deal with them. Earlier Saturday, China's foreign ministry said

the nation's military was in contact with its American counterparts on "appropriately handling" the incident, though it offered no details on what discussions were underway.

The drone was seized while collecting unclassified scientific data about 92 kilometers (57 miles) northwest of Subic Bay near the Philippines in the South China Sea, which China claims virtually in its entirety, Navy Capt. Jeff Davis, a Pentagon spokesman, said Friday. "It is ours. It's clearly marked as ours. We would like it back, and we would like this not to happen again," Davis told reporters. He said the drone costs about \$150,000 and is largely commercial, off-the-shelf technology.

The USNS Bowditch, which is not a combat ship, was stopped in international waters Thursday afternoon and recovering two of the gliders when the Chinese ship approached, Davis said. The two vessels were within some 450 meters (500 yards) of each other. He said the USNS Bowditch carries some small arms, but that no shots were fired.

#### Return normal operations

According to the Pentagon, as the Chinese ship left with the drone, which is about 3 meters (10 feet) long, its only radio response to the US pray if he's assassinated. "God, forgive me for killing these idiots," Duterte said, then blamed God for the presence of criminals. "You create a human monster so if you are God, why do you have to create these idiots? That's why they die." - AP



SINGAPORE: Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte speaks to the Filipino community on Friday. —AP

### **EIGHT CHINESE CHARGED OVER** AUSTRALIA DRUG **SMUGGLING**

SYDNEY: Eight Chinese nationals have been charged with smuggling drugs using a large commercial vessel, Australian police said yesterday, after their boat was seized off the country's coast.

Ten crew members, all Chinese men, were arrested after navy personnel boarded the 50-metre (164-foot) boat on December 12 and brought it to a port in Hobart in the southern island state of Tasmania four days later.

Eight of them were "charged with 'attempt to import a commercial quantity of border controlled drug'" and appeared in Hobart Magistrates Court Sunday, a Tasmania Police spokeswoman told AFP. The other two were yet to be charged, she added.

The Australian Border Force said Friday the vessel was boarded after it was spotted behaving suspiciously by an aerial patrol and tracked as it moved down nation's west coast, across the Great Australian Bight and towards the coastline of Tasmania.

The alleged type and amount of drugs on board were yet to be being determined as the boat was still being searched. The eight men did not enter a plea, did not apply for bail and were due back in court next month, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation reported. —AFP

# BREAKTHROUGH IN JAPAN, RUSSIA ISLANDS ROW ELUDES PM ABE, PUTIN

**TOKYO:** Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo breakthrough on a territorial row that has Abe and Russian President Vladimir Putin wrapped up two days of talks on Friday, with numerous economic deals but no big

over-shadowed ties since World War Two. Putin was heading home with promises

of economic cooperation after appearing



TOKYO: Russian President Vladimir Putin (3rd R), Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (3rd L), former Japanese Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori (2nd L) and vice chairman of the All Japan Judo Federation Yasuhiro Yamashita (2nd R) watch a demonstration of ancient custom judo during a visit to the Kodokan judo hall on December 16,2016. — AP

to achieve what experts said was a key objective - easing international isolation when Russia faces Western condemnation over the destruction of eastern Aleppo in Syria, where it is backing President Bashar al-Assad's forces.

Abe and Putin agreed to launch talks on joint economic activities on disputed islands at the centre of the territorial row as a step toward concluding a peace treaty formally ending World War Two, the two sides said in a joint statement.

The islands in the Western Pacific, called the Northern Territories in Japan and the Southern Kuriles in Russia, were seized by Soviet forces at the end of World War Two and 17,000 Japanese residents were forced to flee. The dispute over their sovereignty has prevented the two countries signing a peace treaty. Abe said he and Putin had taken "an important step" toward a peace treaty but concluding one would not be easy. "The issue won't be solved if each of us just make their own case," Abe said at a news conference with Putin. "We need to make efforts toward a breakthrough so that we don't disappoint the next generation. We need to set aside the past and create a win-win solution for both of us."

Putin dismissed the notion that he was

only interested in getting economic benefits from Japan. "If anyone thinks we're interested only in developing economic links and a peace deal is of secondary importance, that's not the case," he told the same news conference. "For me, the most important thing is to sign a peace agreement because that would create the conditions for long-term co-operation."

#### "Putin go home"

As the two leaders held their second round of talks on Friday, right-wing activists in trucks mounted with loudspeakers circled the streets not far from the prime ministers' office, blaring "Return the islands" and "Putin Go Home".

Abe has pledged to resolve the territorial dispute in the hope of leaving a significant diplomatic legacy and building better ties with Russia to counter a rising China. He had hoped the lure of economic cooperation for Russia's economy, hit by low oil prices and Western sanctions, would pave the path for significant progress on the dispute. Putin, however, would risk tarnishing his domestic image as a staunch defender of Russian sovereignty by compromising. Japanese opposition politicians were quick to criticize the talks. — Reuters



## **DUTERTE PAINKILLER USE DRAWS CONCERN**

MANILA: Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's admission that he used a powerful painkiller has prompted concern about his health, with lawmakers urging him yesterday to undergo a medical examination and disclose the results. Duterte on Monday revealed that he used to take fentanyl, often prescribed for cancer pain and other chronic ailments, because of a spinal injury from previous motorcycle accidents. He however said his doctor made him stop using it on learning he was "abusing the drug" by using more than the prescribed patches.

The firebrand leader has attracted controversy over his war against suspected users of illegal drugs, which has claimed thousands of lives, and his incendiary language against the United States and the United Nations. Lawmakers said Duterte's remarks revived speculation about his health, including rumors during the election campaign that he suffered from cancer - a claim Duterte repeatedly denied.

"To end this speculation, it would be better if his physician explains how the president manages the pain that he suffers," Duterte ally congressman Carlos Zarate told AFP. Zarate added that a medical bulletin would clarify the state of Duterte's health, as fentanyl became controversial after pop legend Prince died of an accidental overdose of the drug in April. Fentanyl, highly potent and addictive, is estimated to be up to 100 times stronger than morphine.

An outspoken Duterte critic, Senator Leila de Lima, supported Zarate's call. "It is not just the illness itself that we should be worried about, but also the impact or side effects that the medications he is taking may have, especially on his lucidity and ability to make decisions with a clear mind." At 71, Duterte is the oldest president of the Philippines. He has said he suffers from daily migraine and ailments including Buerger's disease, a cardiovascular illness characterized by inflammation of blood vessels usually due to smoking.

Duterte cited ill health as the reason for skipping events during summits abroad. In Cambodia last week he said he might not even finish his six-year term. Another critic, Senator Antonio Trillanes, told AFP Duterte's admission that he took more than the prescribed fentanyl dosage showed he "qualified as a drug addict". However Duterte on Saturday denied any addiction. "When there's regularity, my friend, when you take it and when there's a monkey on your back, that's addiction," he told a BBC reporter.

Doctors said fentanyl was regulated in the Philippines, with physicians needing a license from the drug agency to prescribe it. "The ones using (fentanyl) are usually people with harrowing pain or terminal diseases. Doctor monitoring manages risks of addiction," said Leo Olarte, former president of the Philippine Medical Association. "A medical bulletin is good so the public won't be rattled." — AFP

## ERDOGAN OPENS NEW TRABZONSPOR STADIUM

ISTANBUL: President Recep Tayyip Erdogan yesterday opened the new 40,000-plus capacity stadium of Turkish football team Trabzonspor, the latest ambitious infrastructure project to take shape in the country. Erdogan cut the ceremonial opening ribbon alongside visiting Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani of Qatar, one of Ankara's top allies. The stadium, spectacularly located on Trabzon's Black Sea coast, is said to be the most modern in Turkey with a capacity of almost 41,500. Construction began in 2013.

Erdogan has spearheaded a drive to build new stadiums, airports, bridges and tunnels across Turkey. On Tuesday he will inaugurate the first road tunnel under the Bosphorus in Istanbul. The president admitted that the killing of 14 Turkish soldiers on Saturday in an attack blamed on Kurdish militants had cast a shadow over the opening. But he added: "The fight against terror will continue without a break and we will make our investments, bring our projects to life and reach our targets."

Trabzonspor have traditionally been the only club from outside Istanbul to challenge the domination of teams from the mega city, picking up six Turkish league titles. But the last of those titles dates back to the 1983-84 season and the club has been going through a thin period, currently only standing in 11th place in the league. Trabzonspor are also known for their fanatical fan base who frequently allege a bias in favor of the Istanbul sides and are proud to be hated by everyone else in Turkey.

Their standout player of all time was Turkish international goalkeeper Senol Gunes who played a role in winning all of its titles, managed Turkey to third place in the 2002 World Cup and is now enjoying success as manager of Besiktas in Istanbul. There were suggestions that the stadium could be named after Erdogan - who hails from the nearby Rize region - but the president confirmed the honor had gone to Gunes. "We decided to name it Senol Gunes stadium," he said, donning a scarf in the club's claret and blue colors. — AFP

### CANADIAN TOURIST AMONG 10 KILLED...

#### **Continued from Page 1**

HH the Amir also prayed to Allah Almighty to bestow his mercy on the dead, and grant the wounded speedy recovery. HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables to the Jordanian monarch.

The first attack took place when a police patrol went to check on a fire that had broken out in a house in Karak, the general security department said. "As soon as they reached the area, unknown gunmen who were inside the house opened fire on the patrol, wounding a policeman, and then fled by car," it said in a statement carried by the official Petra news agency. "Shortly afterwards, gunmen opened fire on another patrol without causing any casualties," it added.

leaving as the gunmen traded fire with the security forces," said the source who did not wish to be identified. He said that the gunmen were on a higher level inside the fortress.

The Jordan Tourism Board described the Karak citadel, which dates back to the 12th century and has withstood many sieges, as a "maze of stone-vaulted halls and endless passageways". The general security department statement said "five or six gunmen" were thought to be involved in the shootings. However, Prime Minister Hani Al-Malki, who was addressing parliament at the time of the shootings, said that "special forces and policemen are surrounding 10 gunmen holed up inside the Karak citadel". It was not immediately clear who was behind the shootings, but Jordan has been hit by attacks in the past. Jordan is a leading member of the US-led coalition fighting the Islamic State group in neighboring Iraq and Syria. It has carried out air strikes targeting IS, and also hosts coalition troops on its territory. Maaz Al-Kassasbeh, a Jordanian fighter pilot, was captured by the jihadists when his plane went down in Syria in Dec 2014, and he was later burned alive in a cage. Karak is Kassasbeh's hometown. In June, a suicide bombing claimed by IS killed seven border guards near the Syrian frontier. According to sources close to Islamists, almost 4,000 Jordanians have joined jihadist groups in Iraq and Syria, and an estimated 420 have been killed since 2011. — Agencies

## **52 YEMEN SOLDIERS DEAD** IN IS-CLAIMED BOMBING

### Kerry discusses Yemen on Saudi trip

ADEN/RIYADH: A suicide bomber from the Islamic State group killed at least 52 Yemeni soldiers in Aden yesterday, the latest in a string of deadly attacks against recruits in the country's second city. Military officials and medics said dozens more were wounded in the attack that targeted a crowd of servicemen who had gathered to collect their salaries near a base in northeastern Aden. Aden health chief Abdel Nasser Al-Wali warned that the number was likely to increase due to "critical cases".

The attack was carried out by a suicide bomber who blended in among soldiers crowding outside the house of the head of special security forces in Aden, Colonel Nasser Sarea, in Al-Arish district, near Al-Sawlaban base. Sarea said the bomber "took advantage of the gathering and detonated his explosives among them". Images from the blast scene showed bloodstains and scattered shoes across the sandy ground.

IS claimed responsibility for the attack, saying in a statement that a "martyrdom seeker" had gotten through security checkpoints before blowing himself up. The attack comes eight days after a similar bombing at Al-Sawlaban claimed by IS killed 48 soldiers and wounded 29 others. Yemeni authorities have fought a months-long campaign against jihadists who remain active in the south and east of the impoverished Arabian peninsula country.

IS and its jihadist rival Al-Qaeda have taken advantage of a conflict between the government and Yemen's Houthi rebels, who control the capital Sanaa, to bolster their presence across much of the south. The two extremist groups have carried out a spate of attacks in Aden, Yemen's second city and headquarters of the internationally recognized government whose forces retook the port city from the Houthis last year. But Al-Qaeda has



RIYADH: Saudi King Salman meets US Secretary of State John Kerry yesterday. — AFP

distanced itself from the Dec 10 attack, claiming that it tends to avoid "the shedding of any Muslim blood" while focusing on fighting the "Americans and their allies."

Kerry in kingdom Meanwhile, US Secretary of State John Kerry met Saudi King Salman and others yesterday to discuss the war in Yemen, a visit to the kingdom that likely will be his last as America's top diplomat. Kerry's trip, ahead of the inauguration of Republican President-elect Donald Trump, comes as diplomatic ties between the two longtime allies have been strained by the Iran nuclear deal championed by Democratic President Barack Obama and other issues.

Any tensions weren't immediately visible as Kerry held meetings with the king, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Nayef and other royalty in Riyadh, the Saudi capital. "In turbulent times, it's good to have solid friends," Kerry told journalists yesterday night. "That's why the United States' partnership with Saudi Arabia is rightly so valuable."

Kerry earlier joined diplomats from Britain, Oman and the United

#### Arab Emirates to speak with Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed, the United Nations special envoy to Yemen. The UAE is part of the Saudi-led coalition fighting the Houthis, while Oman has served as an interlocutor for them. On Twitter, British Middle East Minister Tobias Ellwood said the meeting discussed a political process to end Yemen's war, something he described as "the only way to bring peace".

Kerry said he hoped to have parties involved "within two weeks" to agree to terms earlier set out by the UN. But he and Saudi Foreign Minister Adel Al-Jubeir offered few specifics on how that would be accomplished, especially as the UN has proposed sidelining Saudibacked President Abed-Rabbo Mansour Hadi and giving the rebels a share of power - concessions the kingdom strongly opposes. "You can see from the humanitarian situation, which is dire and deteriorating rapidly, that it is urgent that we try to bring this war to a close," he said. "But we also need to bring it to a close in a way that protects the security of Saudi Arabia." — Agencies

### MPS CALL TO AMEND SPORTS LAWS TO END...

#### Continued from Page 1

The government has repeatedly charged that Kuwaitis occupying leading posts in international sports organizations conspired to cause the suspension by must be returned in order to strengthen the internal complaining to them. In the past few months, the government dissolved the Kuwait Olympic Committee, Kuwait Football Association and several other federations citing financial and administrative violations. A decision on whether to hold the emergency session on Wednesday or not is expected today. The government should agree to the session for it to go ahead or it can demand delaying it. Meanwhile, a number of opposition lawmakers directly warned Prime Minister HH Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah over the issue of reinstating citizenships revoked by the government for political reasons and over applying increased electricity and water charges. MP Mubarak Al-Hajraf warned the prime minister that patience was running out quickly and if the aovernment does not show the required cooperation on the issue of citizenships, the prime minister must prepare himself for a grilling. He said that all should shoulder their responsibilities, because playing with cit-

izenships is like playing with the nation, which is totally unacceptable.

MP Mohammad Hayef said the period in which citizenships were revoked has ended and the citizenships front. He said that tension over the revoked citizenships

At the same time, gunmen in the Crusader castle opened fire on the Karak police station, "wounding several policemen and passers-by" who were rushed to hospital. "Police and security forces have surrounded the castle and its vicinity and launched an operation to hunt down the gunmen," the statement said, adding that the search was still under way.

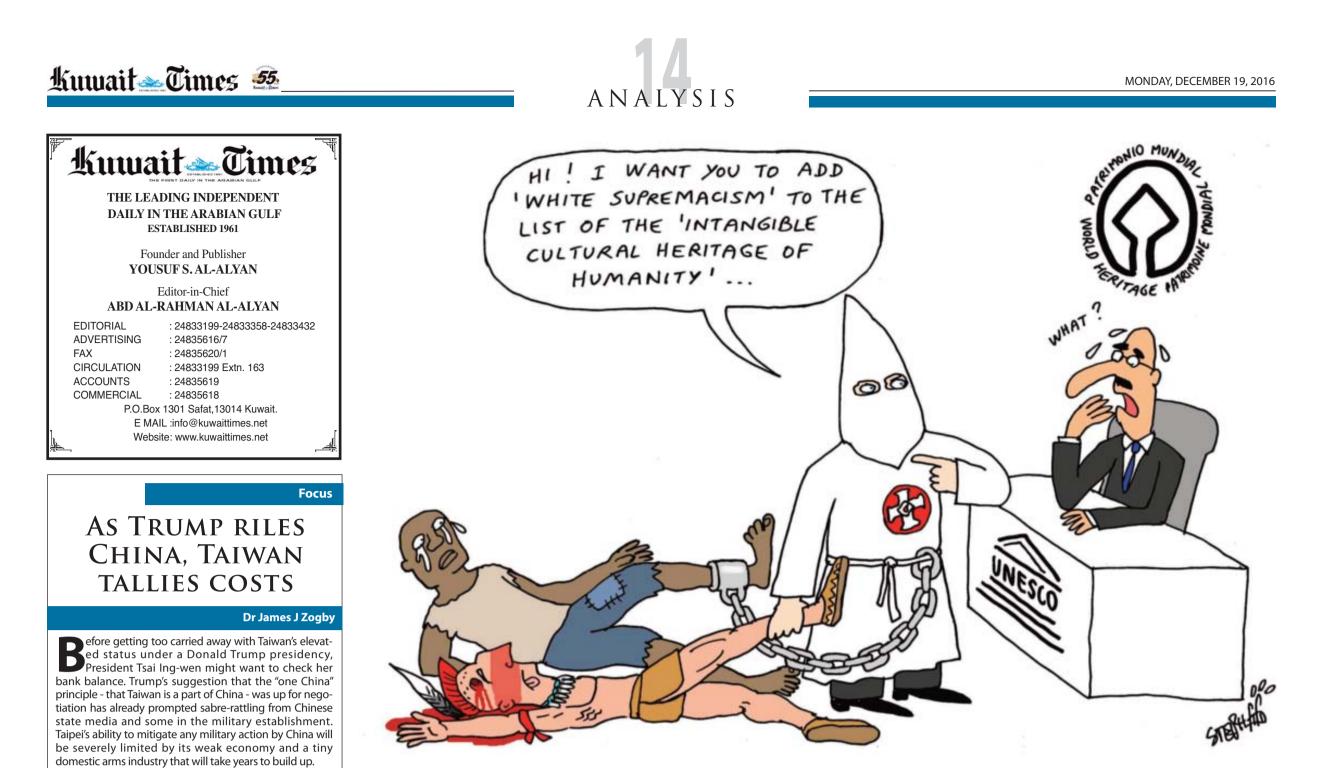
A senior security source said some people were trapped in a lower floor of the citadel when the gunmen took shelter there, but denied media reports that they were being held hostage. "There are no hostages. But some people who were on a lower floor were afraid of

must be defused, "otherwise we will be compelled to grill", adding that the Kuwaiti people know that citizenships were revoked because of a political struggle and this is unjust.

MP Mohammad Al-Dallal also insisted that the government should take steps to resolve this issue, because the citizenships were revoked for political reasons. Dallal, who is the head of the legal and legislative committee, said the panel will meet next Sunday to discuss a large number of legislations including the citizenship and DNA test laws. The committee will also discuss the controversy over the election of the deputy speaker and will take the opinion of legal experts.

MP Mohammad Al-Mutair called on the government to halt the implementation of a law to raise power and water charges from next year. Mutair gave the government until May to make the required amendment, otherwise he vowed to file to grill the prime minister.





## HOTEL MAIDS IN SPAIN REBEL AGAINST LOW SALARIES

Spain is enjoying a surge in visitors, but hotel maids are not reaping the rewards and are rebelling against their low salaries, which can be as little as two euros to clean a room. The country, which welcomed over 68 million foreign tourists last year - its third consecutive year of record numbers - employs around 100,000 hotel maids, according to union estimates. Over the past two years more and more maids have been challenging their contracts in courts and coming out in the press with tales of exploitation in the world's third most visited country.

Pepita Garcia Lupianez, who has worked for 40 years in the seaside resort of Torremolinos on the Costa del Sol, is one of the leaders of the fight despite enjoying better conditions than most. She had a full-time contract and earns 1,300 euros (\$1,400) per month, far above the minimum wage of €764.40. "I am almost ashamed when I meet with colleagues employed by subcontractors who have contracts of four to six hours and work in reality eight or ten hours," said Lupianez, 59, a representative with Spain's biggest union, Comisiones Obreras (CCOO). "Their employers tells them: 'Until you have finished, you can't leave!".

Lupianez took part in a protest in the southern city of Malaga Thursday against a reform of Spain's labour code in 2012 which maids say has led to lower salaries. The reform labour code, crediting it with a drop in Spain's jobless rate to below 20 percent from a record high 27 percent in 2013.

Spain's hotel and retail sector accounted for nearly half of all jobs created this year, according to a study by Adecco, the world's biggest temp agency. But most new jobs are temporary. One in three Spaniards is employed on a fixedterm contract and the International Monetary Fund on Tuesday identified this large proportion of short-term contracts as a weakness. It urged Spain to increase incentives for employers to award staff permanent contracts in a preliminary annual review of Spain's economy.

#### Change hotel star ranking

Maids on short-term contracts are becoming more and more common at hotels at PortAventura, one of the largest theme parks in Europe, near the northeastern city of Tarragona, said Esther Rodriguez, a maid who works there

on a permanent contract. They are "young girls, sometimes from Morocco, Senegal, Nigeria, who earn 300 euros less than us," the 54-year-old said. The president of AC Hotels by Marriott, Antonio Catalan, made headlines last month when he publicly criticized the labor law reform and its impact on hotel maids.

"Today I can fire someone by paying them compensation equivalent to 20 days' pay for each year worked and then start to outsource. This is what those who exploit maids do," he told a business forum. The Spanish hotel federation declined to comment on the issue. Some maids are distributing fliers to hotel clients to explain their plight. "It's the best way to put pressure on hotel owners," said Angela, 54, who was fired from a big hotel chain for refusing to be outsourced. She is lobbying to ensure staff working conditions are taken into account when awarding a hotel star ranking, along with criteria such as bed size. — AFP

#### Arms Sales

Selling arms might be more palatable, and there is

And even if the United States - Taiwan's sole arms supplier - agrees to sell the advanced weaponry the island needs to deter a Chinese attack, Taipei will struggle to

pay the bill, government advisers and experts say. "The trend in defense spending is a 'slow rise," said Chieh Chung, a long-time defense expert and researcher with

the National Policy Foundation in Taipei, a think tank.

The ability of Taiwan to defend itself, and the willing-

ness of the United States to help it, have been brought

into sharp relief since President-elect Trump accepted an

unprecedented phone call from President Tsai early this

month. Tsai has never conceded the "one China" principle

and Beijing has never renounced the use of force to take

back what it deems a wayward province, particularly if

Despite that threat, Taiwan has spent less than 2 per-

cent of its half-a-trillion dollar economy on its defense

needs in recent years, leaving it woefully unable to match

a free-spending China militarily. US-based think tank the

Rand Corporation said in a research report last year the

United States would find it far more challenging to come

to Taiwan's aid in the event of an attack now compared to

two decades ago, due to rapid advances in Chinese capa-

bilities. In 1996, only two US air wings would have been

need to achieve air superiority at the outset of a conflict,

Taiwan makes moves toward independence.

but by 2017 that rises to 30, the report said.

"There isn't a lot of flexibility in government finances."

certainly a need. Two of Taiwan's four submarines date to World War Two, while the two other Dutch-built boats have been in service for nearly 30 years. But Chieh estimates submarines would cost Taiwan more than \$2 billion each, requiring a special budget fundraising via government bonds - a more expensive prospect in a rising interest rate environment.

Any arms sale would also risk provoking Beijing. Retired Major-General Luo Yuan, a widely read Chinese military figure, told Hong Kong's Phoenix Television on Monday that Taiwan buying US arms could be considered a hostile act. "If you want to buy one set of anti-missile systems from the United States, then we'll set up four in response on the other side of the Taiwan Strait, so that you will know pain, that you can't buy security, and that what you're actually buying is danger," he said.

#### **Indigenous Defense Industry**

Buying big-ticket items like subs would also be a tough sell at home because Tsai has made developing an indigenous defense industry a key policy plank to create jobs and pump up the sluggish economy, currently growing at less than 2 percent. Taiwan has previously developed its own missiles and also manufactured over 100 of its own fighter jets in the 1990s before the program withered. The navy has just begun programs to build a few small warships, and next on Taiwan's list are submarines and advanced jet trainers.

But critics say it will take years to build a battle-ready fleet, costs would likely be higher than buying secondhand equipment and there is almost no export market to sustain programs for Taiwanese defense goods. Taiwan's reliance on the United States is therefore key. "Beijing knows that we have obligations to help Taiwan defend itself and resist coercion, as enshrined in the Taiwan Relations Act, and that we make decisions about our defense relationship with Taiwan based on the threat that China poses," said Daniel Blumenthal, director of Asian Studies at the American Enterprise Institute, and a former US defense official.

Trump's campaign rhetoric, however, indicated he may be less likely to go to war over someone else's defense while recent comments suggest Taiwan may be a pawn in his trade negotiations with China. Madeleine Bordallo, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives Armed Services Committee, says throwing China a "curveball" will make Beijing think twice about issues such as Taiwan. Bordallo backed a defense bill supporting senior military exchanges between the United States and Taiwan that was approved by Congress this month. "I believe that different types of engagement with Taiwan offer us a way to throw that curveball in the coming years," she told an audience at a security conference in Taipei this week. "Further engagement with Taiwan is important to achieving the strategic goal." — Reuters

All articles appearing on these pages are the personal opinion of the writers. Kuwait Times takes no responsibility for views expressed therein. Kuwait Times invites readers to voice their opinions. Please send submissions via email to: opinion@kuwaittimes.net or via snail mail to PO Box 1301 Safat, Kuwait. The editor reserves the right to edit any submission as necessary. made firing workers easier and cheaper and weakened collective bargaining agreements. Outsourcing of cleaning to less expensive firms has since become widespread. "In numerous hotels directly-hired staff have been replaced" by employees of service firms, said Ernest Canada, the author of a book on hotel maids. Maids who work for such firms are not governed by the collective labor agreement for housekeeping staff, but the one for the cleaning sector, and are paid up to 40 percent less than their peers, according to the CCOO.

#### 400 rooms per month

"We say: 'Enough exploitation!', said Carolina Martin, a 46-year-old maid in the southwestern city of Seville who has filed a complaint against her previous employer. "I earned just 700 euros to clean 400 rooms per month, they gave us more or less two euros per room we cleaned," she said. She now works 30 hours a week at a four star hotel in Seville, earning €618 a month. The schedule leaves her in "constant stress" with no time to go to the bathroom during her shifts, she said.

The maids often win their legal battles. Of the 58 collective agreements which have been contested since May 2015, 46 have been annulled, according to Spain's two largest unions, CCOO and the UGT. Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy's conservative government defends its reform of the



Spanish hotel maid Pepita Garcia Lupianez holds union flags as she takes part in a protest against a reform of Spain's labor code in 2012, which maids say has led to lower salaries, in Malaga on Dec 15, 2016. — AFP

## THE EMPTY DAYS OF IMPEACHED PRESIDENT PARK

South Korea's presidential Blue House has been something of a family home for Park Geun-Hye, but the luxury residence has now become a place of solitary confinement for the impeached, isolated leader. Park has twice called the Blue House home: First as the daughter of late military strongman Park Chung-Hee and then as president herself - a cumulative period of 20 years.

Currently president in nothing but name and with no official duties to perform, Park faces a months-long empty schedule within the walls of the complex as she waits for the final act of her impeachment drama to play out. The only regular encroachment from outside is the deafening chanting of hundreds of thousands of protestors who have taken to the streets of Seoul every Saturday for the past two months to demand Park either resign or be removed.

Ensnared by a corruption scandal involving an old friend, Park was impeached by parliament just over a week ago - a move that stripped away all her substantial presidential powers and transferred them to her prime minister. She is allowed to retain her title and stay at the Blue House while the Constitutional Court considers whether to validate the impeachment - a process that could take up to six months.

#### **Restricted movement**

But her movements are restricted to the residential part of the 250,000-sq-m compound. Her offices, some 200 m from her living quarters, are off limits. A planned trilateral summit with the leaders of China and Japan that was supposed to be held this month in Tokyo has been indefinitely postponed. Aides say Park spends her time resting and preparing her impeachment defence for the court, but otherwise there are scant details about her activities.

"She must feel like the whole world has turned its back on her," said Lee Jun-Han, a politics professor at Incheon University. "I don't think she has the luxury of travelling outside the Blue House, or even resting in peace at home," Lee said. Park's father Park Chung-Hee ruled the country with an iron fist from 1961-79 and his eldest child enjoyed a pampered life, although in her memoirs she described her early days at the Blue House as "prison-like". She never married and has no children, and critics say her sheltered upbringing left Park aloof and out of touch.

#### 'Lonely life'

In a televised apology she gave in early November as the corruption scandal snowballed, Park spoke of her "lonely life" as president and how it had led her to place too much trust in her long-time confidante, Choi Soon-Sil. Park's impeachment focused on charges that she colluded with Choi in forcing a number of South Korean conglomerates to donate tens of millions of dollars to two dubious non-profit foundations that Choi controlled and allegedly plundered.

Park acknowledged letting her guard down with Choi, who had helped her through "difficult times" as a single female president who had lost both her parents to assassins and was estranged from her siblings. In testimony to an ongoing parliamentary investigation into the Choi scandal, Park's aides cemented the image of her as a solitary figure who liked eating alone. One former chief of staff who served Park for two years said he had often gone an entire week without meeting her at all - an experience echoed by other senior policy advisors.

"Park was almost always in her residence, whether on Sundays or a weekday, unless there were public events like a cabinet meeting or a meeting with advisors," a former presidential chef said in a recent interview. Park's staffers now report to the prime minister - and acting president -Hwang Kyo-Ahn, who is expected to give the annual yearend national presidential address.

For the Blue House press corps, Park's blank days have left them with similarly blank notebooks. "The number of reporters in the pressroom has shrunk a lot - maybe only a third are showing up," said the correspondent of one national newspaper who spoke on condition of anonymity. "There are no more regular briefings by the spokesman. He only comes to the pressroom when there's a particular issue regarding the president," the correspondent said. — AFP





#### FOURCADE WINS RACE IN BIATHLON W CUP



NOVE MESTO: Martin Fourcade's domination of the men's biathlon World Cup continued yesterday with the defending champion and overall leader's victory in the 15-kilometer mass start. Dropping to 14th after missing one target at the second shooting range, the Frenchman didn't waste time in overcoming one penalty lap. He pulled away after the next shooting to cross the finish line in 36 minutes, 18.9 seconds. Germany's Simon Schempp finished 8.3 seconds behind in second, while Anton Babikov of Russia was third, 9.4 back. Fourcade also won the sprint on Thursday and pursuit on Saturday and claimed seven of the individual eight races this season. Fourcade has a 158point lead over Russia's Anton Shipulin in the overall standings. — AP

#### MILITO QUITS AS ARGENTINE COACHING EXODUS CONTINUES

**BUENOS AIRES:** Former Barcelona and Argentina defender Gabriel Milito has quit as coach of Independiente after Saturday's 1-0 home defeat by Banfield in the Argentine first division. Milito, who took charge in May and as a centre back helped Independiente win their last league title in 2002, is the 15th coach to leave a club in Argentina's 30-team championship since the beginning of the season in August. "I gave of my best but it didn't work out. I think this is the time to step aside," the 36-year-old, younger brother of former Inter Milan and Racing Club striker Diego Milito, told reporters. Independiente were jeered and whistled off the Estadio Libertadores de America pitch by fans angered by insipid performances in a poor recent run which had delivered two wins in their last seven matches. They go into the summer break with 22 points from 14 matches, including six wins. Independiente, who lifted the last of their record seven crowns in the elite South American Copa Libertadores 32 years ago, last won a title in the second-string Copa Sudamericana in 2010. —Reuters

#### KLOPP WON'T RUSH BACK IMPROVING COUTINHO

LONDON: Influential midfielder Philippe Coutinho was making encouraging progress from an ankle injury but will not be rushed back to boost Liverpool's Premier League title aspirations, manager Juergen Klopp has said. The 24-yearold Brazilian, who was initially expected to be out for five to six weeks, has been on the sidelines since sustaining the injury during the 2-0 win over Sunderland at Anfield last month. "It would be cool. He is improving a lot," Klopp told British media when asked if Coutinho could be back for the clash against Manchester City at Anfield on New Year's Eve. "He is off his crutches since the West Ham United game (on Dec. 11), when we left the stadium he was walking in front without them." Coutinho said he has set his sights on making his return against City. Klopp, however, insisted the midfielder will not be rushed back into action. "We will have to see," the German manager added. "No idea at the moment. — Reuters





## KUWAIT SPORTS DAY SUPPORTS DISTINGUISHED ATHLETES: KOC

**KUWAIT:** Organizing the First Kuwait sports day buttresses Kuwait's distinguished athletes, Chairman of Kuwait Olympic Committee (KOC) Sheikh Fahad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah stressed Saturday.

Speaking in statements to reporters after concluding the event at Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad International Stadium, Sheikh Fahad said the KOC would continue backing and organizing sports activities and programs that serve Kuwaiti sons and daughters.

A large number of sports federations,

ly. He welcomed the event held over nine days and in which 14 sports federations like Judo, shooting, athletics, tennis and others took part.

The KOC's initiative to organize this sports day comes in implementation of the directives of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah that call for taking care of athletes, he noted.

He extolled the support of Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud that helped sports federation and clubs share contests.



clubs and committees took part in today's event which was held under the auspices of Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah.

Sheikh Fahad lauded efforts of male and female athletes in today's competitions that made brilliant performances in different competitions.

Meanwhile, Chairman of the Kuwait Shooting Association and Arab Shooting Federation Duaij Al-Otaibi said that KOC intends to hold this sports event annualAl-Otaibi pointed out that the KOC would seek to hold an international sports conference to discuss some mechanisms and strategies in order to develop Kuwait's sports movement through joint cooperation amongst all State's institutions, including the legislative and executive authorities, and sports bodies.

He said appropriate solutions would be provided for the development of youth action and sports in Kuwait. The event ended with honoring all winners in all competitions. —KUNA

-Photos by Abdellatif Sharra











## TEAM SKY CHIEF FACES QUESTIONS OVER MYSTERY PACKAGE

Crouch on Sunday said Team Sky boss Dave Brailsford faces "some extremely important questions" about a mystery package that is the subject of a UK Anti-Doping investigation.

Brailsford is one of six witnesses appearing before the Culture, Media and Sport select committee in Westminster today as part of its long-running inquiry into sport's fight against doping.

The committee will ask Brailsford about Olympic champion Bradley

(TUEs) - which are essentially doctor's notes to allow athletes to use medicine that would otherwise be banned by the World Anti-Doping Agency - and the package which was delivered to Team Sky by a British Cycling employee at the end of a key pre-Tour de France race in 2011. Leaked WADA documents revealed in September that Wiggins was granted TUEs to use the powerful corticosteroid triamcinolone before races in 2011, 2012 and 2013. And in October, it was reported

LONDON: British Sports minister Tracey Wiggins' therapeutic use exemptions that a "Jiffy bag" containing triamcinolone was delivered to Team Sky doctor Richard Freeman, who now works for British Cycling, by the then-GB women's team manager and academy coach Simon Cope at the final stage of the 2011 Dauphine Libere.

Shortly after this allegation was reported, UKAD announced it was investigating alleged "wrongdoing" at Team Sky and cycling's national governing body, with its investigators visiting the pair's headquarters in Manchester, taking docu-

ments and interviewing all relevant witnesses. Brailsford, British Cycling, Cope, Freeman and Wiggins have strongly denied breaking any anti-doping rules but nobody has revealed the contents of the package, despite Brailsford and British Cycling saying it was not triamcinolone, which the former Tour de France champion would not have been allowed to take at that time.

Speaking to BBC 5 Live's Sportsweek programme, Crouch said she would be following the committee hearing with

"great interest" as she believes "it is really important all sports are completely transparent" about their anti-doping practices.

"If we want to continue to be successful in cycling, and to encourage more people to participate in cycling, it is important that the witnesses are transparent in the answers they give," Crouch said. "Brailsford will be asked some extremely important questions and he will have to justify himself and his actions, and it's not for me as sports minister to say otherwise." — AFP

### LARA GUT BACK TO FORM WITH WORLD CUP SUPER-G WIN

style from two miserable performances to win a World Cup super-G race yesterday for her third victory of the season and 21st career win.

The defending World Cup overall champion had failed to finish Friday's Alpine combined race and Saturday's downhill, dropping valuable points in her quest to close the gap on current World Cup leader Mikaela Shiffrin of the United States.

"Today I loved the fact I could ski the way I wanted. That's what I'm taking from the weekend, I found myself again," Gut said. "The last days I was skiing well, but I didn't have the feeling. I'm a racer who really needs to have a good feeling. If I don't have that feeling, I can't push."

Gut made no mistake this time, powering down the Oreiller-Killy course to beat Liechtenstein skier Tina Weirather by .13 seconds and Italian Elena Curtoni by more than one second. "From the first gate on it worked the way I wanted. It felt awesome, it felt fast, that's the way I am," Gut said. "You saw it yesterday, it was totally different." Gut said she felt much more focused after having in-depth discussions with her team. "I opened my heart to my team and tried to describe what I was feeling. They know me better than I know myself," she said. "They showed me that nothing was wrong and this morning I was myself again on the slope."

It was her sixth podium and fourth win in Val d'Isere - and an especially important one considering her unexpected slump in form. "Yesterday was a good lesson," said Gut, who had been reluctant to discuss her poor form on Friday and Saturday. "Sometimes I come in front of the media, and other people, and put myself in the position of being misunderstood."

Curtoni was celebrating her second career podium. "I'm very happy," Curtoni said. "I was injured in the middle of August

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VAL D'ISERE: Lara Gut bounced back in so I lost two months of preparation, in the most important moment."

Weirather was .47 seconds up on Gut but then faded. "I always lose a lot of time at the bottom in Val d'Isere, I don't know why," said Weirather, who is not totally content with her form. "It's really good this season in super-G and GS but my downhill isn't where I want it to be. I don't know what to do, really."

Gut's other wins this season were in super-G in Lake Louise - where Weirather also finished second - and giant slalom in Soelden. The Swiss is a far more clinical competitor, winning 21 of her 38 podium finishes, compared to six in 28 for Weirather. While the 25-year-old Gut has a career haul of five world and Olympic medals, the 27-year-old Weirather has none. Gut is now five points behind Shiffrin heading into Tuesday's GS in the nearby Alpine resort of Courchevel. Shiffrin skipped the three speed events here in Val d'Isere, but returns for Courchevel.

Italian Nadia Fanchini was fourth, just like in Saturday's downhill, and Frenchwoman Tessa Worley placed fifth for a career best result in super-G.

It was another good day for Italian racers after they placed four in the top six in downhill. "We are a strong team" Curtoni said. "It's nice if we can push each other more and more." It could have even better as Sofia Goggia missed out on a seventh podium of the season.

She was leading Gut after the first two time splits, but then lost her balance and went out. Ilka Stuhec of Slovenia finished a disappointing seventh behind Austrian Stephanie Venier.

Stuhec won the Alpine combined and the downhill to take her season's tally to four wins, but this time finished 1.75 seconds adrift of Gut. American Laurenne Ross, who missed the downhill with flu, was off form and finished 14th. — AP



LAS VEGAS: San Diego State running back Donnel Pumphrey smiles after being named the most valuable player after the Las Vegas Bowl NCAA college football game against Houston on Saturday, in Las Vegas. San Diego State won 34-10. — AP

## PUMPHREY BREAKS NCAA RECORD AS SDSU WINS LAS VEGAS BOWL

LAS VEGAS: Donnel Pumphrey broke the NCAA career rushing record Saturday in his college finale, running for 115 yards and a touchdown in San Diego State's 34-10 victory over Houston in the Las Vegas Bowl. Pumphrey passed former Wisconsin star Ron Dayne's mark of 6,397 yards on a 15-yard run early in the fourth quarter, with teammates swarming him on the sideline, and wrapping up his career in his Nevada hometown with 6,405 yards. "It means the world to me," Pumphrey said as his father wiped away tears before hugging him. Pumphrey's senior total of 2,133 yards rushing ranks in the top 10 for a FBS player. Ron Smith returned an interception 54 yards for a touchdown, Curtis Anderson caught a 28-yard touchdown pass from Christian Chapman, Juwan Washington ran for a touchdown and John Baron kicked two field goals for the Aztecs (11-3). They overcame a 10-0 firstquarter deficit against the Cougars (9-4) for their second consecutive bowl win.

his career. Game MVP Taylor Lamb passed for 119 yards and a touchdown and ran for 126 yards and a score. Kareem Hunt covered 42 yards on four straight rushes to propel Toledo (9-4) down the field after the field goal. Damion Jones-Moore was stopped on third down.

#### **NEW ORLEANS BOWL**

scored a touchdown to help Southern Mississippi beat Louisiana-Lafayette. Nick Mullens, the Southern Miss all-time leader in yards passing and passing touchdowns, finished his distinguished career by throwing for 346 yards and two TDs. One of Mullens' TD tosses was a 6-yarder to running back Ito Smith, who also rushed for 138 yards and two scores. However, Mullens' turnovers helped the Ragin Cajuns keep the game competitive despite the Golden Eagles (7-6) outgaining ULL (6-7) 481 yards to 252. —AP



VAL D'ISERE: Switzerland's Lara Gut, center, winner of an alpine ski, women's World Cup super-G, takes a selfie with second placed Liechtenstein's Tina Weirather, left, and third placed Italy's Elena Curtoni, in Val d'Isere, France, yesterday. — AP

## LEINSTER ROUT SAINTS AS **CONNACHT, LEICESTER WIN**

PARIS: Triple champions Leinster handed Northampton a record European Cup defeat in a nine-try, 60-13 rout Saturday as Connacht and Leicester kept their quarterfinal hopes alive with dramatic last-minute kicks. One week ago, Leinster beat the Saints 37-10 in their first Pool 4 meeting a game marked by Northampton's England skipper Dyan Hartley being red-carded after just six minutes. On Saturday, the English side, already struggling in fourth from bottom spot in the Premiership, were stunned again despite briefly leading in Dublin when Ken Pisi scored an 80-metre breakaway try to go 13-5 up.

But the 2009, 2011 and 2012 champions were 29-13 ahead by the interval thanks to Adam Byrne's second try and further scores from Luke McGrath and Sean O'Brien. After the break, Tadhg Furlong, Sean Cronin, skipper Isa Nacewa (two) and Rory O'Loughlin added further tries as Northampton were humiliated. Nacewa added 15 points with the boot.

The win moved Leinster to 16 points at the top of Pool 4, six ahead of Montpellier who face fellow French side Castres yesterday. Northampton remain bottom with just four points.

"We were pretty clinical in taking the opportunities that we created," said Leinster coach Leo Cullen. Saints boss Jim Mallinder, who made 10 changes to his team, added: "We're out of Europe. We were always going to struggle. We knew that before the game."

Connacht avenged last week's 32-17 loss to Wasps when backrow forward Naulia Dawai barrelled over for the try with 81 minutes on the clock. That made it 18-18 with fly-half Jack Carty holding his nerve to kick the winning conversion for 20-18 from tight on the line as the Galway

Sportsgrounds crowd held their breath.

"I just tried to block out the pressure," said Carty who was his team's only fit goalkicker. "It's a feeling of pride and relief." Wasps took a losing bonus point and still head Pool 2. But they are locked on 13 points along with four-time champions Toulouse and Connacht with only the group winners guaranteed a quarter-final spot. The English side were ahead at 7-3 early in the first half thanks to a try from scrum-half Joe Simpson after Nathan Hughes had been held up short of the line.

But a Carty penalty followed by a converted try from Danie Poolman, after a scrum against the head, gave Connacht a 13-7 lead at the interval.

Wasps clawed back to 13-13 before winger Josh Bassett sprinted over for his team's second try for an 18-13 lead with just seven minutes left. However, Connacht weren't finished and Carty's decision to kick for the corner allowed the home side to set-up a line-out drive which carried Dawai over for the tying score.

Toulouse ran in eight tries in a 54-15 rout of Italian whipping boys Zebre, who have conceded 224 points in four games. Leicester needed a last-minute, long-distance penalty to defeat Munster 18-16.

Leicester, the 2001 and 2002 winners. were 16-15 down with one minute left after hooker Niall Scannell had grabbed the game's only try for Munster, the 2006 and 2008 champions.

But with the clock ticking down, Munster flanker CJ Stander was penalised and Welsh fly-half Owen Williams coolly slotted the winning penalty from 52 metres. Williams kicked all of Leicester's points with a perfect six from six as the Tigers avenged last weekend's 38-0 mauling by Munster at Thomond Park.— AFP

#### **NEW MEXICO BOWL** NEW MEXICO 23, TEXAS-SAN ANTONIO 20

Richard McQuarley had two short touchdown runs as New Mexico won a bowl for the second time in a half-century, topping Texas-San Antonio. The Lobos' only win since taking the 1961 Aviation Bowl had been a 2007 victory over Nevada in the New Mexico Bowl. Lamar Jordan ran for 81 yards and threw a 34-yard pass to Dameon Gamblin that set up McQuarley's 1-yard burst for a 23-13 lead in the fourth guarter. The Lobos (9-4) gave coach Bob Davie his first bowl win - he lost three times at Notre Dame and also last year with New Mexico in this bowl. Jarveon Williams ran for 125 yards for the Roadrunners (6-7). They lost in the first bowl appearance in the program's six-year history.

#### **AUTONATION CURE BOWL ARKANSAS STATE 31, UCF 13**

Justice Hansen threw three touchdown passes to Kendall Sanders to help Arkansas State beat UCF. Hansen completed 12 of 26 passes for 205 yards, hookiong up with Sanders for touchdown strikes of 12, 75 and 17 yards. The biggest plays of the night came from the Red Wolves' special teams. They scored on a blocked punt and produced two turnovers that were turned into touchdowns. The Red Wolves (8-5) sealed the victory when they went up 31-13 on Sanders' 17-yard scoring reception early in the fourth quarter. That touchdown was set up after UCF returner Chris Johnson mishandled a punt and it was recovered by Logan Moragne at the Knights 37. The tone for the special teams was set in the first quarter when Johnston White broke through the line to block Caleb Houston's punt and B.J. Edmonds fell on the ball in the end zone to put the Red Wolves ahead 7-0 in the first 4 minutes. The Red Wolves took a 17-0 lead over the Knights (6-7) in the first quarter after a UCF fumbled kickoff return set up Hansen's 12-yard touchdown pass to Hansen.

#### **CAMELLIA BOWL APPALACHIAN STATE 31, TOLEDO 28**

Marcus Cox rushed for 143 yards and a touchdown and Michael Rubino kicked the go-ahead 39-yard field goal to lift Appalachian State past Toledo. The Mountaineers (10-3) won the game in Alabama's capital city on a late field goal for the second straight year, this one with 5:14 left. Cox became the ninth FBS player with four 1,000-yard seasons and the 22nd to top 5,000 in

#### SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI 28 LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE 21

Allenzae Staggers set New Orleans Bowl records with 11 catches for 230 vards and also

## VETERAN HOPKINS KNOCKED OUT OF RING IN CAREER FINALE

LOS ANGELES: Bernard Hopkins's bid to add a last chapter to a storied ring career ended Saturday with the 51-year-old former world champion spent sprawling out of the ring by Joe Smith. In a fight that Hopkins vowed would be his last the 27-year-old Smith-who wasn't born when Hopkins launched his career in 1988 — ended proceedings with a series of blows that included one of his punishing right hands.

Hopkins, who sagged against the ropes and then through them as Smith landed a final left, fell backwards, hitting his head and twisting an ankle. When Hopkins was unable to make it back into the ring within the mandatory 20 seconds referee Jack Reiss called a halt, making it a technical knockout for Smith at 53 seconds of the eighth round.

"The fighter got hit with a legal punch, went out of the ring and was injured. It's over," Reiss said. The result was booed by some of the 6,513 at the Forum in Los Angeles, and Hopkins insisted he was pushed, not punched out of the ring.

"I'm really still in shock," said Hopkins, whose resume includes some of the biggest names of his generation and an astonishing 20 straight middleweight title defenses beginning in 1994.

Hopkins became the oldest boxer in history to win a major title when defeated Tavoris Cloud in 2013. In 2014 he beat Beibut Shumenov by split decision to become the oldest to unify world titles.

After a two-year layoff, Hopkins looked all of his 51 years in the early going, but he said he believed he was on his way to turning the tide. "I know if I hadn't made a mess and gotten knocked out of the ring, I would've come back like I'm known for and would've had my chin," Hopkins said after the result saw his record slip to 55-8-2 with 32 knockouts.

"I had seen him fall, and I kept hitting him until I saw him go out, and I landed that left hook to finish the job," Smith said. "I hit him with four or five clean shots and they were good shots on the button."

Although it wasn't the ending he wanted, "The Executioner" said he wouldn't change his mind about retiring for good. "I promised I wouldn't," he said of returning. "You come to that point in life where it is final and I'm happy with my life in retirement.

"I belive that the crowd and the fans know for a fact I went out as a soldier, fighting the toughest, baddest opponents.

"Joe was a tough, heavy-hitting fighter," Hopkins added of his hand-picked opponent, who improved to 23-1 with 19 knockouts.

The sometime construction worker from New York said he knew it wasn't the result many came to see. "I came here to do my job," Smith said. "This is my coming out party, too. I had to finish him." — AFP



INGLEWOOD: Bernard Hopkins (left) punches Joe Smith Jr. as Smith goes on to win the WBC International Light Heavyweight title in a ninth round TKO at The Forum on Saturday in Inglewood, California. — AFP

## Kuwait 🗻 Times 🌆

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2016

## **STARS HALT FLYERS' WINNING STREAK AT 10**

SPORTS

**TORONTO:** Adam Cracknell scored the tiebreaking goal early in the third period to lead the Dallas Stars to a 3-1 victory over Philadelphia on Saturday, ending the Flyers' 10-game winning streak. Radek Faksa and Jordie Benn also scored for the Stars and Antti Niemi stopped 31 shots, including three during a Flyers power play in the closing minutes. Cracknell broke a 1-1 tie at 2:27 of the third. Flyers goalie Steve Mason stopped a shot by John Klingberg, but the puck rebounded to Cracknell's feet and he put it on his stick and sent a wrist shot into the net. Benn, whose penalty gave Philadelphia its only power play with 2:58 left, scored into an empty net with 18 seconds to go. Tyler Leier scored his first NHL goal in the first period for the Flyers while Mason finished with 25 saves.

#### MAPLE LEAFS 2, PENGUINS 1, OT

Jake Gardiner scored 2 minutes into overtime as Toronto beat Pittsburgh to end a three-game losing streak. Gardiner was set up by Mitch Marner, whose shot just shuffled past defenseman Derrick Pouliot in front. Nikita Zaitsev also scored for Toronto, which had dropped four straight at home. The young Maple Leafs outshot the defending Stanley Cup champions 49-34 and got 33 saves from Frederik Andersen. Evgeni Malkin scored for the Penguins, and Marc-Andre Fleury and Matt Murray combined to make 47 saves. Fleury was forced to leave briefly in the first period after being cut on his neck by a skate, requiring five stitches.

#### **CANADIENS 2, CAPITALS 1**

Carey Price bounced back from getting pulled the night before, making 20 saves as Montreal snapped Washington's six-game winning streak. Price returned to his usual, elite form while Artturi Lehkonen and Jeff Petry scored for Montreal. The 2014-15 Vezina Trophy-winning goaltender beat last season's winner, Braden Holtby of the Capitals, who stopped 23 of the 25 shots he faced. A day after glaring at Michel Therrien after Montreal's coach yanked him for allowing four goals on 18 shots in a lackluster home loss to San Jose, Price made big stops on T.J. Oshie, Marcus Johansson and former teammate Lars Eller. Nicklas Backstrom scored a 5-on-3 power-play goal for the Capitals.

#### **RANGERS 2, PREDATORS 1, SO**

Rookie Jimmy Vesey and Mats Zuccarello each scored in the shootout as New York beat Nashville and the NHL's best road team added yet another win to its record. Vesey came out first to heavy boos from Nashville fans upset he chose to go to free agency rather than sign with the franchise that drafted him in 2012 and he beat Juuse Saros. Then Zuccarello scored to end the game. Rick Nash scored in regulation as the Rangers improved to 11-5-0 away from New York in finishing off a two-game road swing with a second straight victory. Henrik Lundqvist made 31 saves, including stopChicago beat St. Louis. Dennis Rasmussen, Brian Campbell, Niklas Hjalmarsson and Artemi Panarin also scored for the Blackhawks, who have won have four straight. Scott Darling made 23 saves to improve to 9-2-2. Patrik Berglund scored twice for the Blues while Alex Pietrangelo and Kyle Brodziak also scored once each. Hjalmarsson started the comeback by scoring in the first minute of third period to tie the score at 4-4. Hinostroza converted with 4:25 left for his first game-winning goal of the season. Panarin added an empty netter.

#### **RED WINGS 6, DUCKS 4**

Tomas Tatar got his first career hat trick to help Detroit break out of a slump with a win over Anaheim. Tatar got his third goal early in the third period, putting the puck on both sides of his stick before flipping it over John Gibson. Rickard Rakell scored his second goal of the game less than two minutes later, pulling Anaheim within a goal. The Red Wings restored their two-goal lead midway through the third when Frans Nielsen scored off a rebound in front of the net. Petr Mrazek helped Detroit keep the lead, finishing with 21 saves. Anaheim's Jonathan Bernier stopped 17 shots through two periods before being replaced by Gibson.

#### WILD 4, COYOTES 1

Darcy Kuemper stopped 27 shots in his first start in nearly three weeks as Minnesota beat Arizona for its seventh straight win. Ryan Suter and Tyler Graovac both ended goal-scoring droughts of at least 13 games while Chris Stewart and Eric Stall also scored for the Wild. Minnesota has won seven in a row for the first time since March 2013. Brendan Perlini ended Kuemper's shutout bid with less than two minutes remaining and Mike Smith made 26 saves for the Coyotes, facing several close shots and at least a couple that hit off the posts.

#### **HURRICANES 2, SABRES 1, SO**

Lee Stempniak and Sebastian Aho scored on Carolina's first two shootout attempts to lift the Hurricanes over Buffalo. Cam Ward made 23 saves and stopped two shots in the shootout for Carolina, while Joakim Nordstrom had a first-period goal for the Hurricanes. Evander Kane tied the game for Buffalo late in the third. Anders Nilsson stopped 21 shots for Buffalo.

#### **SENATORS 3, DEVILS 1**

Derick Brassard scored the go-ahead goal early in the second period and Mike Condon stopped 29 shots as Ottawa beat New Jersey to snap a season-high threegame losing streak. Bobby Ryan scored in the first period and Zack Smith added an empty-netter for the Senators. John Moore scored and Keith Kinkaid finished with 28 saves for the Devils, who have lost five straight.

#### **OILERS 3, LIGHTNING 2, SO**



BRISBANE: Pakistan's batsman Asad Shafiq (R) plays a shot as Australia's wicketkeeper Mathew Wade (L) looks on during the fourth day of the day-night cricket Test match between Australia and Pakistan in Brisbane yesterday. — AFP

## FIGHTING PAKISTAN RESIST AUSTRALIA'S VICTORY DRIVE

BRISBANE: Asad Shafiq scored a thrilling century as Pakistan put up a spirited resistance to Australia yesterday, frustrating the hosts' attempts to wrap up the first Test with a day to spare. Shafiq dashed for three runs off a cut shot in the final over of the fourth day to reach his 10th Test century off 140 balls in the daynight match at the Gabba.

The tourists, who have lost their last nine Tests in Australia, refused to buckle despite the loss of key batsmen Younis Khan, Azhar Ali and skipper Misbah-ul-Haq.

At the close on a storm-hit day, with Shafiq leading the way, Pakistan had just two wickets left and were 382 for eight-the highest fourth innings in a Test at the Gabba.

They trail the home side by 107 heading into today's final day. "Asad Shafiq was struggling and he came back with a bang," Azhar said. "We really enjoyed his innings and the way he batted, it was a really special knock, and also special how Mohammad Amir and Wahab Riaz batted as well. "It will help to grow more confidence, going through the series."

#### **SCOREBOARD**

BRISBANE, Australia: Scoreboard at the close on the fourth day of the day-night first Test between Australia and Pakistan at the Gabba on yesterday.

Australia first innings 429 (S. Smith 130, P. H	Handscomb	S. Ahmed b Starc	24		
105; W. Riaz 4-89, M. Amir 4-97)		M. Amir c Wade b Bird	48		
Pakistan first innings 142 (S. Ahmed 59	W. Riaz c Smith b Bird	30			
Hazlewood 3-22, J. Bird 3-23, M. Starc 3-63)		Y. Shah not out	4		
Australia second innings 202 for 5 de	eclared (U.	Extras (lb4, w2)	6		
Khawaja 74, S. Smith 63, Rahat Ali 2-40)		Total (8 wickets, 123 overs)	382		
<ul> <li>Pakistan second innings (70 for 2 overnight)</li> </ul>	)				
S. Aslam c Renshaw b Starc	15	To bat: R. Ali			
A. Ali c Wade b Starc	71	Fall of wickets: 1-31 (Aslam), 2-54 (Azam	), 3-145 (Azhar),		
B. Azam c Smith b Lyon	14	4-165 (Misbah), 5-173 (Younis), 6-220	(Ahmed), 7-312		
Y. Khan c Smith b Lyon	65	(Amir), 8-378 (Wahab)			
M. ul-Haq c Wade b Bird	5	Bowling: Starc 30-8-97-3 (1w), Hazlewo	od 35-11-78-0,		
A. Shafiq not out	100	Bird 29-6-94-3 (1w), Lyon 26-3-100-2, Mad	dinson 3-0-9-0.		

#### Connor McDavid scored the decisive

ping Ryan Johansen to start the shootout. Craig Smith's shot went wide for Nashville in the second frame. Mike Fisher scored for Nashville, which has lost two straight and four of the last five.

#### **BLACKHAWKS 6, BLUES 4**

Vinnie Hinostroza scored a late tiebreaking goal and Patrick Kane broke out of a 10game goal-scoring drought to help

Eastern

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Chicago

St. Louis

Nashville

Winnipeg

Colorado

San Jose

Calgary

Arizona

Montreal

Anaheim

Edmonton

Vancouver

Los Angeles 16

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Eastern (

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Pacific

goal in the shootout as Edmonton beat Tampa Bay. Milan Lucic and Leon Draisaitl scored in regulation for the Oilers while Jonathan Drouin and Tyler Johnson had goals for the Lightning. Tampa Bay has lost two in a row and five of six. Cam Talbot made 31 saves for the Oilers and then turned away Brian Boyle in the third round of the shootout to end it. Tampa Bay's Ben Bishop stopped 30 shots. — AP

#### **NHL results/standings**

Edmonton 3, Tampa Bay 2 (SO); Chicago 6, St. Louis 4; NY Rangers 2, Nashville 1 (SO); Toronto 2, Pittsburgh 1 (OT); Ottawa 3, New Jersey 1; Detroit 6, Anaheim 4; Montreal 2, Washington 1; Carolina 2, Buffalo 1 (SO); Dallas 3, Philadelphia 1; Minnesota 4, Arizona 1.

Confe	rence	2		Ottawa	17	11	3	76	83	37	
l Divi	sion			Boston	16	13	3	77	79	35	
OTL	GF	GA	PTS	Tampa Bay	15	14	3	91	91	33	
4	94	79	46	Florida	14	13	5	77	87	33	
4	89	60	40	Detroit	14	14	4	78	89	32	
4	91	93	38	Toronto	12	11	7	85	91	31	
6	84	101	32	Buffalo	12	11	7	66	79	31	
5 3	87	88	31	Darrate		tropolita				0.	
-	86	99	31			•					
1	64	93	23	Pittsburgh	20	7	5	109	90	45	
: Divis	ion			NY Rangers	22	10	1	110	73	45	
1	79	68	39	Columbus	19	5	4	94	58	42	
5	91	90	37	Washington	19	8	3	81	66	41	
5	97	90	37	Philadelphia	a 19	11	3	106	100	41	
2	79	77	34	Carolina	13	11	7	82	87	33	
2	85	96	34	New Jersey	12	12	6	72	90	30	
2	77	96	28	NY Islanders		13	6	79	93	28	
5	70	97	27								
Confe	rence	2		Note: Overt	ime	losses (O	TL)	are w	orth o	one poi	nt
c Divi	sion			in the stand	lings	and are	no	t inclu	ided i	n the lo	SS
4	96	69	44	column (L)							

TORONTO: James van Riemsdyk #25 of the Toronto Maple Leafs skates with the puck against the Pittsburgh Penguins during an NHL game at the Air Canada Centre yesterday in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The Maple Leafs defeated the Penguins 2-1 in overtime. — AFP

Steve Smith gave Shafiq a life on 72, dropping a clear two-handed chance at second slip off Mitchell Starc's bowling when three regulation overs were left in the day. Play was extended by an extra half-hour to try to secure a result but the tourists held firm.

Shafiq took the game to Australia and led the resistance with a belligerent knock including 10 fours and a six, spiced with some lively running between wickets.

Mohammad Amir, in the first year of his return to international cricket following a fiveyear ban for spot-fixing, hit his highest Test score in a stubborn 92-run seventh-wicket partnership with Shafiq.

Amir's previous best was 39 not out against England at The Oval in August, but he fell late in the session for 48 off 63 balls with five fours.

The Australian bowlers endured a long grind, with a three-hour final session ending only at 10:09 pm, after a fierce storm lashed the ground just before tea. The bowlers, who decimated Pakistan by taking seven wickets for 24 in the first innings, were frustrated by a lack of assistance from the pink ball under lights in the second. "It probably didn't go to plan. No doubt we wanted to finish off the game today. Hats off to Pakistan, they batted particularly well," said Australia bowling coach David Saker

"We're still in a very good strong position. I'd prefer to be in our position than theirs. We've got to come back and get two quick wickets tomorrow."

Australia are defending an unbeaten run of 27 Tests at the Gabba. Their last defeat here was in 1988 to the West Indies.

The hosts went into the final night session needing five wickets for victory and removed the first-innings top-scorer Sarfraz Ahmed for 24. Starc scattered his stumps with an inswinger in the 88th over, his third wicket, and Jackson Bird had Amir caught behind in the 107th over. But number nine Wahab Riaz hit a blazing 30 off 56 balls with two fours and two sixes.

Younis Khan had earlier also kept the bowlers at bay but was out to a rash shot 30 minutes before the dinner break. The 112-Test campaigner fell to an ill-judged reverse sweep off spinner Nathan Lyon, the ball ballooning off the back of his bat for Smith to take an easy catch. Starc persisted with a shortpitched plan after a 90-minute storm delay at tea. It finally paid off when Azhar Ali tried to flick a rising ball down to fine leg, only to edge to Matthew Wade.

Azhar faced 179 balls for his 71 and put on 91 for the third wicket with Younis. Younis, out for a first-ball duck in the first innings, took 20 balls to get off the mark with a streaky shot through the slips cordon to the boundary. — AFP

## RAHUL OUT ON 199, INDIA **REACHES 391-4 VS ENGLAND**

CHENNAI: Lokesh Rahul was dismissed one run short of his double century yesterday as the series took a familiar turn with India comfortably reaching 391-4 at stumps on day three of the fifth test to trail England by 86 runs. Rahul hit a career-best 199 before lobbing a simple catch shortly before the close of play to Jos Buttler at point off Adil Rashid.In



CHENNAI: India's Lokesh Rahul, gestures as he leaves ground after being dismissed by England's Adil Rashid for 199 runs. — AP

all, Rahul faced 311 balls, hitting 16 fours and three sixes. It was his fourth test century and would have been his maiden double ton.

Karun Nair was unbeaten on 71 in India's first innings, while Murali Vijay was 17 not out.

England was all out for 477 in its first innings. In the afternoon session, England had claimed the prize wicket of Virat Kohli for 15 but then stumbled against Rahul and Nair, who took their fourth-wicket partnership to 161 runs, adding another 116 runs in the final session. Both batsmen looked at ease, scoring just under four per over. England took the second new ball in the 85th over and almost immediately England captain Alastair Cook dropped Nair - on 34 not out - at slip off Jake Ball.

India crossed the 300-mark in the 86th over. Nair then reached his maiden test halfcentury off 98 balls. Rahul, meanwhile, went past his previous best of 158 against West Indies in Jamaica in August this year.

He went on to the highest test score for an Indian opener against England in India, when he overtook Budhi Kunderan's 192, also scored in Chennai in 1964.

Rahul became only the second Indian batsman after Mohammad Azharuddin to be dismissed on 199 runs, who recorded this unwanted feat against Sri Lanka at Kanpur in 1986. Injured opener Vijay then came out to bat, and survived a DRS appeal for lbw instantly. Nair too had survived a similar shout earlier on. They took India to stumps without further loss. India had reached 256-3 at tea after England dismissed Kohli, who was caught at extra cover off Stuart Broad.

After resuming overnight on 60-0, India went to lunch at 173-1 after Rahul and Parthiv Patel (71) shared an opening partnership of 152.It was the highest first-wicket stand for India at home against England. The previous best was 135 runs by Sunil Gavaskar and Farokh Engineer in Mumbai in 1973. India has a winning 3-0 lead in the five-test series. — AP

#### **SCOREBOARD**

CHENNAI, India: Scoreboard at stumps on day three of the fifth test between India and England at the MA Chidambaram Stadium

England 1st Innings: 477		Overs:	108.
India 1st Innings (Overnight: 60-0)		Still to bat: Ravichandran Ashwin, Ravind	ra Jadeja,
Lokesh Rahul c Buttler b Rashid Parthiv Patel c Buttler b Ali Cheteshwar Pujara c Cook b Stokes Virat Kohli c Jennings b Broad Karun Nair not out Murali Vijay not out	199 71 16 15 71 17	Amit Mishra, Umesh Yadav, Ishant Sharma. Fall of wickets: 1-152, 2-181, 3-211, 4-372. Bowling: Stuart Broad 18-4-46-1, Jake Ball Moeen Ali 24-1-96-1, Ben Stokes 9-1-3 Rashid 17-0-76-1, Liam Dawson 23-3-72-0	15-1-50-0, 37-1, Adil
Extras: (2lb) TOTAL: (for 4 wickets)	2 391	2-0-12-0. Series: India leads 3-0.	

## Kuwait 📥 Times 🍜



#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2016



#### **KUWAIT TIMES NBA POWER RANKINGS**

#### By Ahmad Jabr

KUWAIT: In addition to its usual coverage of NBA news, Kuwait Times introduces a new feature this year: the NBA Power Rankings. It is a weekly list ranking each team based on its performance during the week. The actual record for each team (put between brackets, for games played as of yesterday) does play a role in the assessment process but is not the main factor for deciding each team's ranking, thus making it different from league standings. A new team skyrocketed this week fueled by a 10-game winning streak. (For any comments or suggestions, e-mail the writer at: a.jabr@kuwaittimes.net)

THAT! BLAZERS

KINGS



#### 1- Golden State Warriors (24 - 4) Last week:

1 - Commanding offense and diverse scoring options often take the spotlight when talking about the Warriors from their equally impressive defense. They ranked fifth in the league in defensive rating in the last 10 games.



#### 2- San Antonio Spurs (21 - 5) Last week: 4 -

Last night saw the Spurs retire the number 21 jersey of probably the greatest player in franchise history. But despite being retired, Tim Duncan still showed up to practice last Monday to teach center Pau Gasol a few postplays of his own.



#### 3- Houston Rockets (21 - 7) Last week: 5 -

During their current 10-game winning streak, not only did the Rockets soar to third place in offensive rating, but they also ranked second in defensive rating, which is outstanding considering that defense was one of the main concerns when early-season Coach of the Year candidate Mike D'Antoni was brought to Houston.

#### 4- Cleveland Cavaliers (19 - 6) Last week: 3 -

The Cavs have won six of their last seven games, with their only loss coming against Memphis on Wednesday in a match where LeBron James, Kyrie Irving and Kevin Love sat for rest, shedding more light on the increasing phenomenon of teams frequently resting their starts during the long season.



#### 5- Toronto Raptors (18 - 8) Last week: 2 -The Raptors continue to lead the league in

offensive rating, but their defense has been abysmal as of late, ranking 26th in defensive rating in the past five games, which was shown evident in their 125-121 Friday night loss to a Hawks team that has been struggling with offense all year.



#### 6- Los Angeles Clippers (20 - 7) Last week: 6

- Every young player who wants to learn how to become a great point guard should watch Chris Paul play. A true floor general and pure point guard, Chris Paul is the first player since 1973-74, when steals became an official stat, to have 4,987 points, 7,943 assists and 1,855 steals in his first 800 games, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.



#### 7- Utah Jazz (17 - 7) Last week: 10 - Winning six of their last seven - with the only loss coming against the Warriors - is perhaps not the

most impressive thing that the Jazz have done lately (nor is it their solid defense). Utah has been flying under the radar with their offense, ranking 2nd in the league in offensive rating in the last 10 games.



#### 8- Memphis Grizzlies (18 - 10) Last week: 6 -With his eight points in his first match back from injury on Friday, Mike Conley became the Grizzlies' all-time leading scorer, in addi

#### 17- Atlanta Hawks (13 - 14) Last week: 17 -

A win against the Raptors prevented the Hawks from slipping further down the rankings this week. But they might not be similarly lucky next week with three of their next four games played on the road.

#### 18- Washington Wizards (11 - 14) Last

week: 19 - The Wizards have won six of their last 10 games, and four of their last five behind solid play from their starting backcourt of John Wall and Bradley Beal. Matches against the Pacers (twice), Bulls and Bucks (twice) this month offer a chance that could make or break their hopes in the East's playoffs hunt.

#### 19- Portland Trail Blazers (13 - 16) Last

week: 18- The Blazers beat the Thunder on Tuesday after holding Russell Westbrook to 7-19 shooting, before losing the next two matches against the Nuggets and Warriors, in games in which they allowed their opponents to score 132 and 135 points respectively. And in another blow to their defense, it was announced Saturday that center Festus Ezeli was likely to undergo a season-ending surgery on his injured left knee.

#### 20- Denver Nuggets (11 - 16) Last week: 21

- Impressive play from Nikola Jokic forced coach Michael Malone to put him back into the starting lineup, which translated into two straight wins for the Nuggets following a disappointing loss to the Mavs on Monday. But the lineup reshuffle has come at the expense of other standout center Jusuf Nurkic, whose minutes dropped considerably in his team's past two games.

#### 21- Sacramento Kings (10 - 16) Last week:

22 - DeMarcus Cousins' off-court issues (including his latest tirade at a columnist following last Monday's game) is not the only thing that is drawing comparisons between him and Rasheed Wallace. His improved midrange and three-point shot this year combined with his stellar post play is reminiscent of that of the four-time All-Star and one-time NBA Champion.

#### 22- Los Angeles Lakers (11 - 19) Last week: AKERS

20 - In the Lakers' loss to the Cavs on Saturday, 19-year-old rookie Brandon Ingram nearly become the youngest player ever to record a triple-double, finishing with nine points, nine assists and 10 rebounds.

#### 23- Miami Heat (9 - 18) Last week: 24 -

Hassan Whiteside scored 26 points and grabbed 22 rebounds in 34 minutes in Miami's win over the Pacers on Wednesday - his second ever game with at least 25 points and 20 rebounds in a game in less than 35 minutes. He joins Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and DeMarcus Cousins as the only players to have multiple games with at least 25 points and 20 rebounds with fewer than 35 minutes played over the last 50 seasons (per Elias Sports Bureau).



OKLAHOMA CITY: Oklahoma City Thunder guard Russell Westbrook (0) and Phoenix Suns guard Leandro Barbosa, right, go after the ball in the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game in Oklahoma City, Saturday. — AP

## WESTBROOK CLAIMS 50TH CAREER TRIPLE-DOUBLE, THUNDER TOP SUNS

**OKLAHOMA CITY:** Russell Westbrook had a career-high 22 assists in his 50th triple-double, helping the Oklahoma City Thunder beat the Phoenix Suns 114-101 on Saturday. Westbrook also had 26 points and 11 rebounds in his 13th triple-double of the season. He had gone three games without one, yet the leagueis leading scorer continues to average double figures in points, rebounds and assists. Steven Adams had 19 points and seven rebounds and Enes Kanter added 12 points for Oklahoma City, which had dropped two in a row. Thunder guard Victor Oladipo, the teamís No. 2 scorei for the season, missed his third straight game with a right wrist sprain. Devin Booker scored 31 points for the Suns, who have lost six of eight.

#### **CAVALIERS 119, LAKERS 108**

LeBron James scored 16 points in the fourth quarter while Kyrie Irving matched a career high with 12 assists as the refreshed Cavaliers finally put away the Lakers in the fourth quarter. Kevin Love had 27 points and a season-high 17 rebounds, leading the Cavs to their sixth win in seven games. The Cavs were back at full strength after coach Tyronn Lue left James, Love and Irving behind earlier this week for a game in Memphis, a decision that sparked some criticism as fans were denied a chance to see the three stars and Cleveland lost. Irving looked more like himself in his first game in a week, adding 21 points as the Cavs improved to 19-6. Nick Young made eight 3-pointers and scored a season-high 32 for the Lakers, who snapped an eight-game losing streak on Friday in Philadelphia. to the road win. The Pacers had six players score in double figures and shot 48 percent from the field while stopping a two-game slide. Glenn Robinson III had 12 points and 12 rebounds, and Thaddeus Young also scored 12 points on 6-for-8 shooting. Kentavious Caldwell-Pope had 20 points for Detroit and Reggie Jackson finished with 19 points and 10 assists. Tobias Harris added 13 points and Andre Drummond grabbed 15 rebounds. The Pistons shot 38 percent from the field in their third loss in four games.

#### **ROCKETS 111, TIMBERWOLVES 109, OT**

James Harden scored 10 of his 28 points in overtime as the Houston Rockets rallied from 12 points down with just over two minutes to beat Minnesota and win their 10th straight game. Harden also had 13 assists and nine rebounds for the Rockets, who have not lost since Nov. 29. Ryan Anderson scored 28 points and Eric Gordon finished with 20. Houston trailed 93-81 with 2:04 to play, but Anderson and Trevor Ariza hit two 3pointers each in a 14-2 run. Karl-Anthony Towns had 41 points, 15 rebounds and five assists for Minnesota and Zach LaVine scored 24 points. But the Wolves turned the ball over 22 times and couldn't get a stop down the stretch to miss their chance for their first back-to-back wins this

Stephen Curry added 19 points with five 3-pointers as the Warriors pulled away for the easy win. Durant shot 11 for 13 with four 3s in his seventh 30point game and also pulled down 11 rebounds in nearly 31 minutes. Klay Thompson scored 16 points, Draymond Green had 12 rebounds and 11 assists, and reserve lan Clark added 23 points in a lopsided rematch of the Western Conference semifinals won in five games by Golden State. Damian Lillard scored 20 points playing back home and Maurice Harkless had 17 but Portland looked a step or two behind all night and never could stay with the deep Warriors.

#### NUGGETS 127, KNICKS 114

Kenneth Faried scored 25 points and Emmanuel Mudiay had 22 as the Nuggets beat Carmelo Anthony and the Knicks. Anthony, who missed the Knicksí loss at Golden State on Thursday night with a bruised right shoulder, had 29 points against his former team but remained winless in five trips to Denver since he was traded to New York in 2011. Kristaps Porzingis scored 22 points but New York concluded its five-game road trip with a third consecutive loss for its first three-game slide of the season. In the first NBA matchup of brothers Willy Hernangomez of the Knicks and Juancho Hernangomez of the Nuggets, Willy finished with 17 points. Juancho didnít get into the game until the final minute and went 1 for 2 at the free-throw line. — AP





tion to leading the team in assists and steals. Though his return couldn't prevent a loss to the Kings, the Grizzlies surely welcome their co-captain back.



#### 9- Oklahoma City Thunder (16 - 11) Last

week: 8 - In Oklahoma's win against Phoenix Saturday night, Russell Westbrook had a career-high 22 assists in his 50th career tripledouble (13th this season). He also had the NBA's first 20-point, 20-assist triple-double in 18 years. His heroics couldn't prevent losses to the Jazz and Blazers last week, though.



#### 10- Milwaukee Bucks (13 - 12) Last week: 14

- Fresh off beating the Bulls in back-to-back games behind strong play from Giannis Antetokounmpo and Jabari Parker, the Bucks look to do the same against the Cavs on Tuesday and Wednesday.



#### 11- Chicago Bulls (13 - 13) Last week: 9 -

Following disappointing losses to the Wolves and twice against the Bucks, the Bulls hope to find ways to win and build up some momentum in their next three games before squaring off against the Spurs in the Christmas Day specials.



#### 12- Boston Celtics (14 - 12) Last week: 11 -

Boston's bench has been mediocre as of late, forcing coach Brad Stevens to play his starters for extended minutes. In his first game back from injury, Isaiah Thomas played the entire fourth quarter to lead his team to victory against the Hornets Friday and end the Celtics' three-game slide.



#### 13- Charlotte Hornets (15 - 13) Last week:

12 - The Hornets had a much-needed win over the Hawks on Saturday, which snapped their four-game losing streak. They need to be worried about their offense which dropped to 26th in the league in the past 10 games.



- The Knicks suffered their third straight loss on Saturday against the Nuggets; a game that Carmelo Anthony called a 'must-win'. And although he did well during that game, he received little help from his teammates, especially on defense which allowed the Nuggets to shoot 56 percent.



After losses to the Heat and Pelicans, the Pacers improved their defense on Saturday, holding the Pistons to 38 percent shooting en route to a 105-90 victory. Their next six games come against Eastern Conference teams with similar records.



After losses to the Wizards and Pacers in backto-back games last Friday and Saturday, the Pistons hope to beat the Bulls tonight and prevent a third straight loss against an Eastern Conference playoffs contender.

#### 24- Orlando Magic (12 - 16) Last week: 23 -

The Magic averaged 118.4 points over the last five games, which is nearly 18 points over their total average so far this year. On the other hand, they allowed their opponents to score 108 points in average during that span, which is up by eight points compared to their total average.

#### 25- New Orleans Pelicans (9 - 19) Last week:

26 - What can be worse than being on the receiving end of an NBA-record 24 threepointers in Friday's loss against the Rockets? Anthony Davis leaving that game with left leg bruise.

#### 26- Phoenix Suns (8 - 19) Last week: 25 -

With only 12 points in Saturday's loss to the Thunder, Eric Bledsoe failed to record his fourth straight game with at least thirty points, and thus couldn't remain on pace to break the team's record of five games in a row last recorded by Charles Barkley in 1993.

#### 27- Minnesota Timberwolves (7 - 19) Last

week: 27 - Karl-Anthony Towns and Andrew Wiggins are averaging a combined 43.6 points per game, the best mark by a young duo in the NBA and slightly better than that of the Bucks' Giannis Antetokounmpo and Jabari Parker.

#### 28- Dallas Mavericks (6 - 20) Last week: 29 -

Deron Williams took the blame for his team's loss to the Jazz on Friday after shooting with 10 seconds left and the score tied, allowing for Rodney Hood's game-winner and a heartbreaking loss in his return to Utah. The Mavs should be more worried about their rebounding which remains good for last in the league.

#### 29- Brooklyn Nets (7 - 18) Last week: 28 -

The Nets entered Friday night's match against the Magic carrying momentum from beating the Lakers two nights earlier and having Jeremy Lin back in the lineup, but couldn't capitalize on that and lost to the league's fourth worst offense.

#### 30- Philadelphia 76ers (6 - 20) Last week:

**30** - Friday's loss to the Lakers provided the first opportunity to see how centers Nerlens Noel, Joel Embiid and Jahlil Okafor would fair playing together, and the result was in Noel's minutes being heavily cut. The young prospect responded by voicing his frustration to the media after the game, before meeting with coach Brett Brown Saturday to discuss his lack of playing time. Seemingly the odd man out, it would be surprising to see him remain with the team past the mid-February trade deadline.

#### **HORNETS 107, HAWKS 99**

Marvin Williams and Marco Belinelli each scored 19 points as Charlotte snapped a four-game losing streak. Kemba Walker had 18 points and 10 assists for Charlotte, which grabbed control with a big second quarter. Cody Zeller finished with 16 points and 11 rebounds. Tim Hardaway Jr. had 21 points for Atlanta and Paul Millsap scored 14 of his 20 points in the third quarter. Dwight Howard grabbed a season-high 23 rebounds, three shy of his career best. The Hawks have lost five of six at home and 12 of 16 overall, a freefall since starting the season 9-2 and tying for the Eastern Conference lead.

#### PACERS 105, PISTONS 90

Paul George scored 26 points and Jeff Teague added 19, helping Indiana

season

WARRIORS 135, TRAIL BLAZERS 90 Kevin Durant scored 34 points and

#### **NBA results/standings**

Golden State 135, Portland 90: Denver 127, NY Knicks 114: Houston 111, Minnesota 109 (OT): Charlotte 107, Atlanta 99; Cleveland 119, LA Lakers 108; Indiana 105, Detroit 90; Oklahoma City 114, Phoenix 101.

Eastern Conference								
Atlantic Division								
	w	L	РСТ	GB				
Toronto	18	8	.692	-				
Boston	14	12	.538	4				
NY Knicks	14	13	.519	4.5				
Brooklyn	7	18	.280	10.5				
Philadelphia	6	20	.231	12				
Central Division								
Cleveland	19	б	.760	-				
Milwaukee	13	12	.520	6				
Indiana	14	14	.500	6.5				
Chicago	13	13	.500	6.5				
Detroit	14	15	.483	7				
Sout	theast l	Divisi	on					
Charlotte	15	13	.536	-				
Atlanta	13	14	.481	1.5				
Washington	11	14	.440	2.5				
Orlando	12	16	.429	3				
Miami	9	18	.333	5.5				

Weste	ern Co	nferei	nce						
North	nwest	Divisi	on						
Utah	17	10	.630	-					
Oklahoma City	16	11	.593	1					
Portland	13	16	.448	5					
Denver	11	16	.407	6					
Minnesota	7	19	.269	9.5					
Pacific Division									
Golden State	24	4	.857	-					
LA Clippers	20	7	.741	3.5					
Sacramento	10	16	.385	13					
LA Lakers	11	19	.367	14					
Phoenix	8	19	.296	15.5					
Sout	hwest	Divisi	on						
San Antonio	21	5	.808.	-					
Houston	21	7	.750	1					
Memphis	18	10	.643	4					
New Orleans	9	19	.321	13					
Dallas	б	20	.231	15					

## ACK CROWNED CHAMPIONS

KUWAIT: The Australian College of Kuwait (ACK) has won the 2016 University Athletics Association of Kuwait (UAAK) Basketball League's Championship Cup outperforming other university teams, including the American University of the Middle East (AUM), Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST), the American University of Kuwait (AUK), and the Arab Open University (AOU).

The UAAK tournament is known for its competitive atmosphere, whereby university teams face each other in a grueling schedule over several months with the leader crowned Champion and holder of the cup until the following season.

On this victorious occasion, the Student Activities and Recreational Center's Manager, Basel Dana, stated: "I would like to congratulate our stu-

dents on the Championship! It's very rewarding after all their hard work and efforts. We are very proud of all our athletes and wishing them all the best in their academic and non-academic endeavors."

ACK's Basketball team will now begin preparations for the next season, with the keen desire to retain the Championship and keep the cup on ACK's campus.





NEIS

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BROOKLYN





## MOORE SETS CAREER HIGH WITH 4 TDS AS MIAMI ROUTS JETS

EAST RUTHERFORD: Matt Moore's first game as Ryan Tannehill's replacement was the best of his career. The nine-year veteran stepped in Saturday night by throwing for four touchdowns in keeping the Miami Dolphins' playoff hopes very much alive with a 34-13 rout of the New York Jets.

In his first start since Jan. 1, 2012 - a Dolphins victory over the Jets, with current New York coach Todd Bowles serving as interim Miami coach - Moore picked apart the mistake-prone hosts.

He hit Dion Sims for a pair of 1-yard TDs and Kenny Stills for 52 and Jarvis Landry for 66 in Miami's eighth win in its last night games. The Dolphins (9-5) clinched their first winning season since 2008, the last time they won the AFC East. Should Moore (12 for 18 for 236 yards) continue such strong play, they certainly can be optimistic about playing in the postseason. "There were some nerves and maybe it showed a little early," said Moore, whose wife gave birth to son Wyatt yesterday. "We started slow, but got in the groove in the middle part. Once we got going, that negative stuff wore offf and I got on a roll. Credit these guys for getting us going and making plays. Once those guys got the ball in their hands, it was impressive."

The Jets (4-10) have lost as many games as they won in 2015, Bowles' first season in charge. They also lost secondyear quarterback Bryce Petty on the first play of the fourth quarter after he was squashed by Ndamukong Suh and Cameron Wake and injured his chest.

For good measure, the Dolphins threw in an 11-yard blocked punt return touchdown by Walt Aiken. "The defense did a great job with turnovers, just causing problems," coach Adam Gase said. "The pressure was relentless. And Walt is a guy making a huge impact on special teams, just now it's resulting in points."

The game was competitive for a half. For once, the Jets started quickly. They were awful in the first half of their last two outings, but Petty immediately guided them 75 yards in seven plays for a 7-0 lead. Robby Anderson, coming on at receiver late in the year, badly beat

Bacarri Rambo on a crossing pattern and sped into the end zone.

It took a replay challenge by Gase to get an incompletion overturned into Sims' first 1-yard touchdown pass early in the second quarter - Moore's first TD throw since Week 8 of 2012, also against the Jets. Andrew Franks' extra point kick hit the left upright, his first miss this season. Eighth-year defensive end Wake's first career interception on an awful throw by Petty thwarted another New York threat in the opening half. And the Dolphins stopped Bilal Powell on a fourth-and-1 run near midfield.

"He has that knack of timing," Gase said about Wake. "He knows there are moments that can swing a game." Those plays set up Moore's perfect pass to Stills behind rookie cornerback Justin Burris for a 13-7 lead. Powell had a big first half with 113 yards total offense. But it only helped get 10 points; Nick Folk made a 48-yard field goal with 18 seconds left. Powell gained only 36 yards in the second half. The Dolphins were outgained by 225 yards to 129, yet went to the locker room ahead 13-10.

From there, it was all Miami, getting Aikens' and Landry's scores and Sims' second TD. "Oh, they were prepared, but when we play like that, it all falls on me," Jets coach Todd Bowles said. "It starts at the top. I've got to do a better job, and they've got to do a better job. But it starts with me." — AP

## **BALOTELLI BRACE KEEPS NICE ON TOP**

PARIS: Mario Balotelli scored twice on his return to the starting line-up as Ligue 1 leaders Nice stretched their advantage at the top to four points yesterday with a 2-1 victory at home to Dijon.

The Italy striker made his first league start in six weeks after recovering from a calf injury and converted a first-half penalty to fire Nice ahead at the Allianz **Riviera** 

Julio Tavares replied with a spot-kick for Dijon five minutes later, but Balotelli turned home the winner early in the second half to send Nice seven points clear of reigning champions Paris Saint-Germain.

Second-place Monaco could trim the gap back to just a single point when they host Lyon in Sunday's late game.

Balotelli played a full 90 minutes and scored a late consolation in Wednesday's 3-2 defeat against Bordeaux in the French League Cup, with his return providing a timely boost for Lucien Favre's men.

Wylan Cyprien stung the palms of Baptiste Reynet with a free-kick midway through the opening period and Nice grabbed the lead on 32 minutes after Alessane Plea was fouled by Yunis Abdelhamid.

Balotelli converted from the spot for his first league goal since October 30, although their advantage was short-lived with Arnaud Souquet harshly penalised for a challenge on Vincent Ruefli in the Nice area.

Cape Verde international Tavares swept home to level and revive Dijon's hopes of snapping a seven-game winless run that has seen them sucked into the relegation places.

But former Dijon defender Souquet atoned for his earlier foul with a low strike across goal that Balotelli poked in as the flag stayed down despite replays showing the Italian was in an offside position.

Plea then struck the bar late on as Nice sought to close out the game, while Dijon finished with 10 men as captain Cedric Varrault picked up a second yellow card.

On Saturday, Unai Emery's PSG slumped to a second defeat in three matches after losing 2-1 at Guingamp.

Yannis Salibur and Nill de Pauw both found the target to give Guingamp a twogoal lead with Edinson Cavani's 17th league goal of the season unable to prevent the visitors sliding to a fourth loss already this term. — AFP





DARMSTADT: Munich players (red) and Darmstadt players challenge for the ball during a German first division Bundesliga soccer match

## SOUTH COAST DERBY

**SOUTHAMPTON WIN** 



BOURNEMOUTH: Southampton forward Jay Rodriguez bagged a brace to inspire his side's 3-1 win against local rivals Bournemouth yesterday.

Rodriguez hadn't scored in the Premier League since August but he ended that barren stretch with a second half double in the south coast derby at Dean Court.

Claude Puel's team had fallen behind to Nathan Ake's early opener, but Ryan Bertrand levelled soon after to set the stage for one of the better days in recent memory for the injury plagued Rodriguez. Southampton's second win in their last nine away league matches lifted them into seventh place, while Bournemouth remain in mid-table. Just 33 miles separate these south coast rivals, but derbies between them have been few and far between.

The rariety of the fixture seemed to give extra intensity to both teams in a scintillating opening. Eddie Howe's side made the perfect start when on-loan Arsenal midfielder Jack Wilshere lofted a perfectlyweighted cross to the far corner, where Ake escaped his marker to plant a diving header past Southampton goalkeeper Fraser Forster.

Joshua King had a chance to increase Bournemouth's lead with a powerful shot that Forster kicked away. But Bournemouth were in front for only eight minutes as Saints left-back Bertrand equalised with a superb individual effort. Twisting and turning on the left edge of the penalty area, Bertrand weaved through the Bournemouth defence before driving a blistering low strike into the far corner of Artur Boruc's goal.

Puel sent on Steven Davis at half-time and the Northern Ireland midfielder played a key role as Southampton swept into the lead three minutes after the interval.

Sofiane Boufal's backheel flick set Davis free and he surged into the penalty area before clipping a cross into the six-yard box for Rodriguez to score with a sliding effort.

Callum Wilson should have equalised moments later but the Bournemouth striker blasted over from inside the area. Rodriguez threatened to follow his third goal of the season with another midway through the half, but Boruc was equal to his effort. Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg almost wrapped up the points with a stinging shot that Ake cleared off the line, but it wasn't long before Rodriguez delivered the killer blow in the 85th minute.

When Nathan Redmond lost control on the edge of the penalty area, the ball ran to Rodriguez, who unfurled a brilliant dipping shot that raced into the top corner. — AFP



BOURNEMOUTH: AFC Bournemouth's Nathan Ake, left, and Southampton's Dusan Tadic battle for the ball during the English Premier League soccer match at the Vitality Stadium, Bournemouth, England, yesterday. — AP

## **COSTA RESCUES BAYERN**

AGAINST BASEMENT SIDE

**BERLIN:** Douglas Costa's long-range strike rescued Bayern Munich in their 1-0 victory at bottom side Darmstadt yesterday to reinstate his side as Bundesliga leaders before their showdown with RB Leipzig.

between Darmstadt 98 and Bayern Munich in Darmstadt, Germany, yesterday. — AP

Bayern host second-placed Leipzig at the Allianz Arena on Wednesday in a mouth-watering clash. Both teams are on 36 points, but the Bavarians lead on goal difference. Costa's ferocious dipping shot from 30 metres out on 71 minutes was the bright highlight of a lacklustre Bayern display as Darmstadt battled their illustrious opponents, running seven kilometres more as a team.

Carlo Ancelotti's Bayern had been temporarily usurped from top spot in Germany for 24 hours by Leipzig's impressive 2-0 win at home to Hertha Berlin on Saturday. However, this was a below-par display from Bayern, especially in the first half, against a limited Darmstadt team who suffered their seventh straight league defeat.

"We are relieved, they were three important points, it would have been hard to have played Leipzig without them," said Bayern goalkeeper Manuel Neuer. "But the way we played-that wasn't FC Bavern."

With Jerome Boateng already out after needing a shoulder operation, Bayern's captain Philipp Lahm withdrew just before kick-off after pulling a thigh muscle in the warm-up and was replaced at right-back by Rafinha.

With an eye on Leipzig, Ancelotti rotated with both Germany midfielder Joshua Kimmich and Franck Ribery starting on the bench.

The Italian coach had demanded a performance with "maximum intensity", but Bayern did exactly the opposite, failing to create a clear chance in the opening 25 minutes at the Boellenfalltor stadium.

Without Arjen Robben or Ribery on the flanks, Bayern lacked a creative spark and Costa made little inroads into the Darmstadt defence, until his thunderbolt of a shot settled the result.

Bayern's hot-shot striker Robert Lewandowski was harassed by Darmstadt defenders whenever he got the ball. Ancelotti resorted to his prefered 4-3-3 formation, even though some of Munich's biggest wins this season have been achieved with a 4-2-3-1 line-up.

Darmstadt's caretaker coach Ramon Berndroth admitted he "idolised Ancelotti as a youngster", but his side showed little respect, created a few half chances and never allowed Munich's stars time on the ball.

Riberv came on for the ineffective Arturo Vidal for the final 20 minutes just before Costa's superb winner. Thomas Mueller pulled defenders away from the middle and with a clear view of goal, Costa unleashed a fierce shot from well outside the area which dipped inside the top left-hand corner. Darmstadt's best chance came when midfielder Peter Niemeyer headed straight at Neuer from a free-kick on 77 minutes. Bayern

defender Mats Hummels admitted his side must improve before the Leipzig showdown.

"The respect is huge and it's going to be a demanding test. We will have to put in a top performance, a standard one isn't going to be good enough against a team like that," said the centreback. — AFP

17 14 0 3 36

14 42

#### **SOCCER TABLE**

EPL STANDINGS								ITALIAN SERIE A TAB	LE
Chelsea	17	14	1	2	35	11	43	Juventus 1	17
Manchester City	17	11	3	3	36	20	36	Roma 1	17
Liverpool	16	10	4	2	40	20	34	AC Milan 1	17
Arsenal	17	10	4	3	38	19	34	Napoli 1	16
Tottenham Hotspur	17	9	б	2	29	12	33	Lazio 1	16
Manchester United	17	8	б	3	24	17	30	Atalanta 1	17
Southampton	17	6	б	5	17	16	24	Inter Milan 1	17
West Bromwich	17	6	5	6	23	21	23	Fiorentina 1	16
Everton	16	6	5	5	21	20	23	Torino 1	16
Bournemouth	17	6	3	8	23	28	21	Genoa 1	16
Stoke City	17	5	б	6	19	24	21	Chievo 1	16
Watford	17	6	3	8	21	29	21	Sampdoria 1	16
West Ham United	17	5	4	8	19	31	19	Udinese 1	16
Middlesbrough	17	4	б	7	16	19	18	Cagliari 1	17
Leicester City	17	4	5	8	23	29	17	Bologna 1	16
Burnley	17	5	2	10	16	28	17	Sassuolo 1	17
Crystal Palace	17	4	3	10	28	32	15	Empoli 1	17
Sunderland	17	4	2	11	15	28	14	Crotone 1	16
Swansea City	17	3	3	11	20	37	12	Pescara 1	16
Hull City	17	3	3	11	14	36	12	Palermo 1	16

SOCCER-LA LIGA STANDINGS F										
Real Madrid	15	11	4	0	40	14	37	N		
Sevilla	16	10	3	3	32	21	33	M		
Barcelona	15	9	4	2	37	15	31	Pa		
Villarreal	16	8	5	3	25	11	29	G		
Real Sociedad	16	9	2	5	28	21	29	0		
Atletico Madrid	16	8	4	4	29	14	28	0		
Eibar	16	6	5	5	22	20	23	St		
Athletic Club	15	7	2	6	20	18	23	To		
Espanyol	15	5	7	3	19	18	22	St		
Las Palmas	16	5	б	5	26	24	21	G		
Malaga	16	5	б	5	25	26	21	M		
Alaves	16	5	б	5	15	17	21	Ba		
Celta Vigo	15	6	3	6	24	29	21	Li		
Real Betis	16	5	3	8	18	29	18	A		
Leganes	16	4	4	8	13	27	16	A		
Deportivo Coruna	15	3	4	8	20	27	13	C		
Valencia	15	3	3	9	21	29	12	M		
Sporting Gijon	16	3	3	10	17	33	12	D		
Granada CF	16	1	б	9	14	33	9	Ν		
Osasuna	15	1	4	10	13	32	7	F		

#### 17 11 2 4 36 17 35 C Milan 17 10 4 27 20 33 3 apoli 16 94 3 32 15 31 94 izio 16 3 29 17 31 talanta 17 92 6 25 20 29 17 iter Milan 8 3 6 25 21 27 orentina 16 7 5 4 24 18 26 orino 16 74 5 32 22 25 17 23 enoa 16 65 5 18 64 nievo 16 б 16 16 22 ampdoria 16 6 4 6 20 22 22 dinese 16 6 3 7 22 24 21 17 6 2 9 23 agliari 39 20 16 4 5 7 14 22 17 ologna 17 5 2 10 21 29 17 issuolo 17 3 5 9 npoli 9 24 14 rotone 16 2 3 11 14 30 9 1 5 10 13 29 8 escara 16 1 3 12 11 31 6 alermo 16

<b>FRANCE STANDING</b>	S							
Nice	18	13	4	1	34	13	43	
Monaco	17	12	3	2	53	16	39	
Paris St Germain	18	11	3	4	33	15	36	
Guingamp	18	8	5	5	23	17	29	
Olympique Lyon	16	9	1	6	29	18	28	
Olympique Marseille	18	7	б	5	20	18	27	
Stade Rennes	18	8	3	7	19	22	27	
Foulouse	18	7	5	6	22	19	26	
St Etienne	18	6	7	5	18	16	25	
Girondins Bordeaux	18	6	б	6	20	26	24	
Nontpellier HSC	18	5	7	6	28	30	22	
Bastia	18	5	5	8	16	21	20	
lle	18	6	2	10	17	24	20	
AS Nancy-Lorraine	18	5	5	8	15	23	20	
Angers SCO	18	5	4	9	15	22	19	
Caen	17	5	3	9	19	30	18	
Metz	17	5	3	9	16	34	18	
Dijon FCO	18	3	7	8	24	29	16	
Nantes	17	4	4	9	11	26	16	
C Lorient	18	4	3	11	20	33	15	



YOKOHAMA: Real Madrid's players pose after they won the Club World Cup football final match between Kashima Antlers of Japan and Real Madrid of Spain at Yokohama International stadium in Yokohama yesterday. — AFP

### FIRES REAL TO KONALI

YOKOHAMA: Cristiano Ronaldo smashed a hat-trick as Real Madrid survived a colossal scare to beat Japan's

such a perfect end to this dream year, it's incredible." The victory extended Real's club record unbeaten

**CLINICAL FINISH** levelled from the spot after Lucas Vazquez was bundled

European teams have now won the Club World Cup Kashima's lead was short-lived, however, as Ronaldo nine out of the last 10 years. But Real rode their luck at times in a pulsating final, not least when Zambian refer ee Janny Sikazwe chose not to show captain Sergio Ramos a second yellow card late on for what appeared a cynical block.

Kashima Antlers 4-2 and lift the Club World Cup yesterday. A Gaku Shibasaki double briefly threatened one of football's greatest ever shocks after Karim Benzema had given Real the early advantage in Yokohama. But Ronaldo equalised from the penalty spot before pouncing twice in extra time to give the Spanish giants their second world title in three years, and fifth in total.

"Bloody hell, what a game!" said a breathless Ronaldo. "We had to suffer, but that's what finals are all about. "People always expect more of Cristiano," he added, speaking of himself in the third person.

"It has been an unforgettable year-winning the Champions League, the Super Cup and the Euros with Portugal. "And to score three more goals and to have

run to 37 matches in all competitions, while French coach Zinedine Zidane surpassed Fabio Capello's record for their best start to a season.

But the European champions, yet to be defeated in 26 games this campaign, were forced to dig deep by an Antlers side who finished third in the J-League before winning the championship final.

Benzema's toe-poked opener was cancelled out on the stroke of halftime by Shibasaki, who took advantage of some calamitous defending from Raphael Varane to lash in a sharp volley. The Japan midfielder sparked wild celebrations among a crowd of 68,000 seven minutes after the break when he smashed home a left-foot shot from long distance.

over by Shuto Yamamoto.

Ronaldo, who scooped his fourth Ballon d'Or last week, put Real back in front with a clinical finish eight minutes into extra time after a clever pass from Benzema.

And the Portuguese superstar completed his hattrick-the first in a Club World Cup final-six minutes later with another poacher's strike to break Japanese hearts.

"The stats don't lie," said Ronaldo, who was also voted player of the tournament.

"I've had a spectacular season. People often criticise me but I'm used to it. I just carry on working on the pitch and get on with my job of winning titles."

'The referee lacked courage, which was regrettable," said Kashima coach Masatada Ishii. "My players were brave, their attitude was great and I feel we have grown as a club through this tournament."

Zidane, who won club world titles as a player with Real in 2002 and Juventus in 1996, paid tribute to his players. "Kashima surprised us a little with their speed and physicality," he said. "But when we have struggled this season we have always believed in ourselves and found a way to win." — AFP

**ROSE CAPS SPURS FIGHTBACK** 



MANCHESTER: Manchester City's David Silva is surrounded by Arsenal players during the English Premier League soccer match between Manchester City and Arsenal at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, England, yesterday. — AP

## MAN CITY RALLIES FOR 2-1 WIN OVER ARSENAL IN EPL

MANCHESTER: Raheem Sterling capped a rousing second-half comeback by Manchester City with the winning goal as Arsenal squandered a lead to lose 2-1 for the second time in five days in the English Premier League yesterday. The England winger collected Kevin De Bruyne's sensational cross-field pass before cutting inside and driving home a low finish in the 71st minute at Etihad Stadium.

Arsenal led through Theo Walcott's fifth-minute strike - another goal that raised questions about City's defensive weaknesses - before Leroy Sane equalized in the 47th with his first goal for City.

While City moved back to within seven points of Chelsea, Arsenal dropped nine points off the leaders. It has been a poor week for Arsene Wenger's wide, which lost from 1-0 up at Everton on Tuesday in another poor display that raised questions about its title credentials.

The defense has been City's major weakness under Pep Guardiola, and the way it was opened by Arsenal for Walcott's goal was alarming.

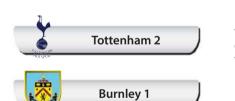
Hector Bellerin was allowed to power up the field unchallenged from right back and pass the ball to Sanchez, who had dropped deep to also find space between City defense and midfield. Sanchez's reverse pass located Walcott between two defenders and the winger composed himself before slipping a low shot past goalkeeper Claudio Bravo.

City was often open at the back while its buildup play was slow from the central midfield, where Yaya Toure and Fernando were deputizing for the suspended Fernandinho and the injured Ilkay Gundogan. Sterling, a winger playing as a lone striker as a replacement for Sergio Aguero, headed wide moments after Walcott's goal but Arsenal's defense held out comfortably until the equalizer, which was also notable for poor defending.

Silva clipped a first-time pass over the top for Sane - who may have been slightly offside - to race clear and sidefoot home for a first goal in his 13th appearance for City.

Suddenly it was all City, whose tempo and urgency noticeably increased in the second half.

Sane was denied in a one-on-one opportunity by Cech, who tipped aside De Bruyne's deflected shot. De Bruyne was growing in influence and it was his stunning pass that set up the winner. — AP



LONDON: Danny Rose capped Tottenham's comeback as they edged out Burnley 2-1 to keep alive their Champions League aspirations yesterday. Mauricio Pochettino's side were forced to come from behind after Ashley Barnes had opened the scoring for Burnley at White Hart Lane.

Normal service was resumed when Dele Alli almost instantly equalised, but Burnley, despite their struggles away from home, would not roll over and it took until the 71st minute until Rose won it. Burnley were left frustrated, especially with Moussa Sissoko fortunate to escape a red card for a high challenge before he created the winning goal that moved Tottenham within one point of the top four.

It looked a different story early on as Tottenham should have been ahead within a minute. Rose fed Harry Kane who in turn freed Alli but the midfielder was way off target as he bore down on Tom Heaton's goal. Besides a point at Manchester United, thanks to Heaton's heroics, Burnley had been a soft touch. They would need some luck on their side to keep Tottenham at bay. And so it proved early on as Kane dragged his shot wide and Christian Eriksen saw his volley deflected just over.

But Tottenham had looked sloppy at the back and they almost paid for an error in the 11th minute.

Kyle Walker gifted possession to Stephen Ward and the left-back where Andre Gray's low shot was kept out by the shins of Hugo Lloris.

It was a chance Burnley needed to take given they had set themselves up to defend deep and soak up the pressure from the home side.

Burnley didn't need asking again as Barnes slid them into a shock 21st minute lead. This was something of a collector's item; their first away goal scored in open play this season.

#### PERFECTION

When Tottenham's Mousa Dembele diverted George Boyd's pass into Barnes' path the striker could not miss as he stabbed him home from close-range.

The lead lasted just six minutes as Alli hauled Spurs level. Walker delivered a cross into the penalty area where Alli timed his run to perfection to slide home the equaliser.

Tottenham were bossing proceedings and Heaton was fortunate to see Kane's shot bounce off his legs and wide. The second-half maintained the same pattern with Eriksen, fresh from scoring twice in the previous home match with Hull, seeing his long-range shot fly just over Heaton's crossbar.

Eriksen then should have done better than divert Rose's 53rd minute cross straight at Heaton.

Alli again came close but Tottenham were becoming increasingly frustrated as Eriksen's pile driver was palmed out by the busy Heaton and just out of Kane's path.

But Spurs would finally break down the stubborn visitors thanks to Rose's 71st minute strike. A quick break led by substitute Sissoko found it's way to the England left-back in space to drive home.

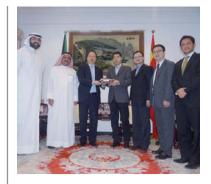
It was painful for Burnley as, just moments earlier, Sissoko was relieved to receive just a yellow card rather than a second red of his short Tottenham career for a high challenge on Ward. — AFP



China aims blow at iron rice bowl in radical shift

Page 23

NBK launches 'NBK Tap & Pay' Page 26



## GCC FOLLOWS FED RATE HIKE TO AVERT CURRENCY PRESSURE Page 22

Mutawa Alkazi to launch 2 new GAC car models Page 25

<image>

CARACAS: Bolivarian militia members take part in a rally to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Liberator Simon Bolivar, in Caracas on Saturday. — AFP

## **VENEZUELA HALTS REMOVING CURRENCY BILLS** Massive protests force Maduro to extend use of 100 bolivar bills

**CARACAS:** With protests rocking his unpopular government, embattled President Nicolas Maduro delayed until January 2 taking Venezuela's highest denomination bill out of circulation. The 100 bolivar bills would temporarily remain legal tender, Maduro said Saturday, but the borders with Colombia and Brazil will remain closed to hit what he claims are "mafias" hoarding Venezuelan cash abroad in a US-backed plot to destabilize the country.

"You can calmly continue to use the 100 bill for your purchases and your activities," Maduro said at a meeting with officials broadcast on state television.

The bill is worth about 15 US cents at the highest official rate, and until recently accounted for 77 percent of the cash in circulation in Venezuela. Venezuela has the world's highest inflation rate, set to hit 475 percent this year according to the IMF. The government is trying to introduce new bills in denominations up to 200 times higher than the old ones, but the plan derailed when Maduro banned the 100 bolivar note before the new bills arrived.

Four airplanes with the new currency set to arrive from abroad were delayed by international sabotage, Maduro said. He did not say

where the money was coming from, or what type of sabotage.

#### A very stressful Christmas

Venezuelans stood in long lines at banks all week to meet a Friday deadline to exchange their currency. When the deadline extension was announced people queued up again on Saturday. "I don't agree with this, I've had to come all the way here with my miserable amount of cash to the BCV [Venezuelan Central Bank] in order to get money to eat. This is madness, I'm tired of it," said Bismary Rivero, a 39 year-old homemaker, told AFP.

Rivero said that she traveled 450 kilometers (280 miles) from her village in the eastern state of Monagas to exchange her money. In a country with one of the highest rates of violent crime in the world, shoppers must carry unwieldy wads of bills to pay for their purchases.

Retirees had complained for months that their pensions were paid in unmanageable 50and 20-bolivar denominations. Rioting and angry protests erupted in several Venezuelan cities as the chaotic reform left people without cash to buy food or Christmas presents. Opposition politicians said Saturday that four people were killed in rioting in the capital of the southern state of Bolivar, though officials have not confirmed those figures. Unrest however was such that the Ciudad Bolivar mayor ordered a curfew banning "motorcycles, pedestrians and private vehicles" until late Monday.

The pro-Maduro state governor, Francisco Rangel Gomez, said on Twitter that 135 people were arrested for looting, and that soldiers were deployed "to re-establish order."

In Guasdalito, in the central-western state of Apure, three state bank offices were torched, an incident Maduro late Friday blamed on unnamed opposition politicians.

#### Venezuela economy unraveling

Maduro has presided over an unraveling of Venezuela's oil-rich economy as crude prices have plunged. He and predecessor Hugo Chavez have made the economy increasingly state-led. Now the importdependent country is desperately short of food, medicine and basic household goods. A recession driven by plunging prices for Venezuela's crucial crude oil exports has led to shortages of food and medicine.

Citizens face long queues to buy basic supplies and inflation has soared. Deadly riots and looting have broken out over recent months. Analysts have warned there is a risk of unrest in

Venezuela, which Human Rights Watch says is in the grips of a "humanitarian crisis." Anti-government protests in 2014 led to clashes that left 43 people dead. — AFP



CARACAS: A man wears a red beret with the image of late Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez during a rally in Caracas on Saturday. — AP

## GULF, EGYPT INCH UP AS VOLUME SHRINKS

#### **MIDEAST STOCK MARKETS**

**DUBAI:** Stock markets in the Gulf posted small gains yesterday after crude oil prices climbed back towards 17-month highs at the end of last week, but trading volumes shrank across the region. Foreign buyers continued to bid up shares in Egypt. Brent futures rose 2.2 percent to settle at \$55.21 a barrel on Friday after Goldman Sachs boosted its price forecast for 2017 and producers showed signs of adhering to a global deal to reduce output.

Saudi Arabian petrochemical shares were bid up yesterday with all 14 listed producers advancing, pulling the main Saudi stock index 0.7 percent higher. Mid-sized producer Sahara Petrochemical was the top performer, jumping 7.1 percent. Saudi Cable Co rose 2.5 percent after saying its Turkish subsidiary had won a \$50 million order, with the financial impact to start appearing by the end of the second quarter next year.

Commodities transportation company National Shipping Co (Bahri) climbed 1.5 percent after it announced its board had proposed a cash dividend of 2.5 riyals per share for 2016, in line with 2015. Its dividend yield is at 6.0 percent, according to Thomson Reuters data. Dubai's main index closed almost flat as trading volume fell to the lowest in five weeks, suggesting that many institutional traders, which played a major role last week, were largely absent yesterday.

Emaar Malls Group rebounded 2.7 percent but builder Drake & Scull, the most heavily traded share, slipped 0.4 percent. Blue chips helped carry Abu Dhabi's index 0.8 percent higher. Dana Gas rose 1.9 percent and First Gulf Bank climbed 2.0 percent. Stock markets in Bahrain and Qatar were closed for national holidays. —- Reuters

## **BRITISH COMPANIES ABSORB BREXIT SHOCK**

**LONDON:** Richard Bunce says he felt sick when voters decided to take Britain out of the European Union in June, forcing him into an emergency review of his firm's expansion plans. But six months on, orders are strong and a new growth plan is in place, according to Bunce, managing director of Mec Com Ltd which sells devices to protect against power surges to clients such as Siemens and Alstom.

Far from the "profound and immediate economic shock" predicted by Britain's finance ministry in the event of a vote for Brexit, the economy has, so far, barely slowed. Bunce expects tougher times. But like many other executives trying to push their Brexit worries to one side, he invested nearly half a million pounds on a new laser-cutting machine over the summer.

Now he plans to spend another 750,000 pounds (\$932,000) on robotic metal-working equipment at Mec Com's plant near Stafford, a town 135 miles (217 km) northwest of London, after landing a big contract with a British food processing firm. "We believe that the opportunities we have got will, one way or another, find a way around Brexit," Bunce said.

To be sure, what Brexit means is far from clear. Britain is due to begin its two-year divorce process with the EU early next year. Agreeing its new relationship could take a lot longer.

Bunce is taking precautions in case his firm ends up facing tariffs on its exports to the EU. He recently travelled to Romania to discuss the possibility of expanding his company's existing unit there in the event of a "hard" Brexit. "If that happens then we would need to find a way to switch very quickly, but as things stand we are planning for more UK business," he said.

#### **Investments planned**

Many other companies seem to be taking a similar approach, including technology giants Facebook and Google which have announced plans to create jobs in Britain in recent weeks. According to official data, businesses increased investment in the three months after the referendum. Manufacturing body EEF says the sector is its most upbeat in a year and a half, helped by an export-boosting fall in the pound since the vote, and investment and hiring plans are up.

In construction, office building has slowed but some companies plan to ramp up home-building next year. A survey by IHS Markit showed growth in the construction sector hit an eight-month high in November. Economists are now raising their predictions for British economic growth next year, after many of them initially warned June's vote would quickly cause a recession.

The Bank of England in November made its biggest ever growth upgrade, saying the economy would grow by 1.4 percent in 2017, up from a forecast of 0.8 percent it made three months earlier.

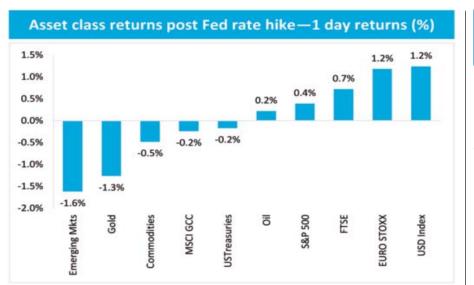
Some investors think that even this looks too cautious. Percival Stanion, head of multi-asset funds at investment

firm Pictet, predicted growth of nearly 2 percent in 2017. "The expectations of a collapse in the UK were massively over-pessimistic," Stanion said, blaming the pro-EU views of many economists for skewing their forecasts. He said supermarkets and other retailers would probably absorb much of the inflationary hit caused by the fall in the value of the pound, rather than pass it on to customers.

For now the BoE - which is helping the economy with its massive stimulus program - is waiting to see who is right: the pessimistic investors who have pushed down the value of the pound by 13 percent since June or the country's consumers who have carried on spending. Gertjan Vlieghe, one of the BoE's interest-rate setters, said he believed Britain was set for a "slowmotion" slowdown. — Reuters







Source: Bloomberg, KAMCO Research

## GCC FOLLOWS FED RATE HIKE TO AVERT CURRENCY PRESSURE

KUWAIT: The Federal Reserve raised the fed funds rate for the first time in 2016, by 25bps on 14-December to a range of 0.50 percent - 0.75 percent from a range of 0.25 percent - 0.50 percent, as economic data and labor market conditions reportedly strengthened. The Fed updated their economic projections over 2016-19 and for the longer run, highlighting optimism by improving forecasts for real GDP, employment and inflation. Faster pace of rate hikes are expected in 2017 (3 hikes), as against September-16 expectations (2 hikes), but policy stance continued to remain accommodative.

#### GCC states hike rates

Following the announcement of a Fed rate hike, GCC states also raised their benchmark rates, given the pegs of their countries to the US dollar. Saudi Arabia raised its reverse repo rate to 0.75 percent, while keeping its repo rate at 2.0 percent. The Central Bank of Kuwait lifted its discount rate by 25bps from 2.25 percent to 2.5 percent, while the UAE raised rates on its certificates of deposits by 25 bps. Bahrain and Qatar also raised key interest rates by 25bps to 0.75 percent. The overnight interbank offered rates of UAE, Kuwait and Qatar rose as a result.

#### Stronger dollar

The USD continued to scale multi-year highs leading up to the Fed event, and even post the rate hike, a trend that is expected to continue in 2017, as more risk-off trades unfold. Meanwhile, a strengthening USD did dampen the rise in oil prices related to the expected reduction in output, but we expect prices to sustain above the \$ 50/bbl level. Given the expectations of further future rate hikes, KAMCO Research expects bonds to relatively underperform other asset key asset classes over the medium term, as yields fall, while the performance of equities would be more based on corporate earnings, rather than liquidity driven, as seen in the past. Rate hikes adds to GCC's challenges; but current account surplus now a possibility Further rate hikes may add to the existing challenges for the GCC in terms of lower growth, the recent cut in oil output and budgetary constraints, as higher borrowing costs are likely to make its way through to corporates and consumers via higher interbank rates. However, we now expect the fiscal deficit in 2017 be lower than the 6.9 percent of GDP forecasted by the IMF, as

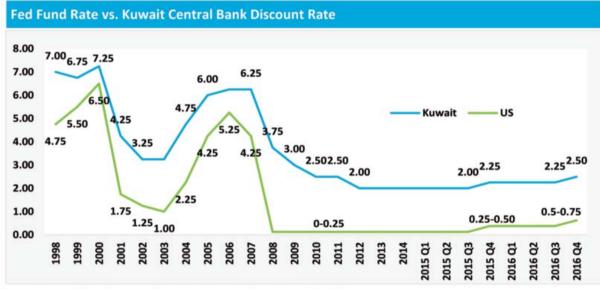
#### **KAMCO ECONOMIC REPORT**

mark rates in the US reaching above 3 percent, to an upper end of the range of 3.4 percent by as early as 2018, whereas the longer term rates post 2019 could inch up to 3.8 percent on the higher end. Average expectations of policymakers have been pushed up from 2017 onwards by 20-30 bps as compared to their September-16 meeting. The median expectation by the end of 2017 is at 1.4 percent as compared to previous expectation of 1.1 percent. Similarly, the average rate projection for

cent to 1.3336 percent, as banks would have likely released funds on softer terms. Though some central banks have kept the lending rates unchanged in response to the rate hike in the US in order to keep the liquidity in their economies comfortable, future rate hikes would eventually reflect on in interbank rates and eventually lead to higher borrowing costs in the region.

#### Markets are on risk-off mode

Post the Fed's decision, the market saw typical risk-off trades as emerging markets and commodities barring oil witnessed declines, if single day returns were analyzed.



Data indicates end-of-period target rates/ranges. Source: US Federal Reserve, Central Bank of Kuwait

2018 is 2.1 percent, up from 1.9 percent in September-16. Real GDP growth on the other hand was revised upward by close to 10bps in 2017 and 2019, while leaving 2018 unchanged, and is expected to average close to 2 percent p.a. over 2016-19.

Saudi Arabia's move to keep the repo rate unchanged was likely to ensure that liquidity in the banking sector was still comfortable, and to mitigate interbank lending rates from steeply rising, in our view. The Central Bank of Kuwait also guided that the move to hike rates in response to the Fed's rate hike was to ensure the continued competitiveness and attractiveness of the national currency as a store of domestic savings. Borrowing costs for Kuwait are likely to rise by about 11 percent, according to our calculations. However, even as overnight interbank rates rose, the 3-month interbank rates exhibited mixed trends as Saudi Arabia. Kuwait and Oatar rates rose, while the rate in the UAE declined from 1.4029 per-

MSCI GCC index was down as well, albeit marginally by 0.2 percent.

Oil remained resilient and range bound inching up marginally by 0.2 percent post the event. The USD index continued its move up since September 2016 and towards the lead up of the rate hike, and was up by 1.2 percent following the rate hike as well. Returns for US treasuries understandably declined as yields fell, and are likely to remain under pressure going forward. Developed equity markets in the US, UK and Euro region gained as investors preferred to move safer havens.

#### News

in brief

#### **Oman CB won't blindly** follow Fed decision

MUSCAT: Oman's central bank won't automatically imitate last week's interest rate hike by the US Federal Reserve, central bank executive president Hamood Sangour Al-Zadjali told Reuters yesterday. Oman is the only member of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council not to announce an official interest rate rise in the wake of the Fed's 0.25 percentage point increase. The Omani central bank will monitor interest rates offered by local banks and will not "blindly follow the Federal Reserve's decision", Zadjali said. "Even though the Omani rial is pegged to the US dollar, the economic cycle in the US is different from the local economic cycle." Zadjali added, "Oman has its independent policies with regards to this issue. The situation needs to be deeply and carefully studied before any decisions, keeping the national economy's interest in mind." The central bank's overnight repurchase rate, which is determined by a formula based on the London interbank offered rate, has been edging up in the last few months from the 1.00 percent level where it was for years. The rate hit 1.195 percent last week.

#### **Abu Dhabi inflation** rises to 2.4% in Nov

ABU DHBAI: The Abu Dhabi Statistics Centre released the following November consumer price data for the Gulf Arab emirate. Abu Dhabi's consumer prices rose by 2.4 per cent in the first eight months of 2016. The consumer price index (CPI) for August was 0.5 per cent, year on year, and prices fell 0.7 per cent from July's prices. Emirati households experienced lower inflation, 2 percent, during the first eight months than expatriate households, for whom the figure was 2.7 percent. Shared households saw a 3 percent increase in inflation. Households in the lowest income level saw prices increase of 2.6 per cent, while middle and high income households saw 2.5 per cent and 2.2 per cent respectively.

#### **Oman Nov inflation** edges down to 1.9%

**MUSCAT:** Oman's National Center for Statistics and Information released the following November consumer price data. Transport prices jumped 10.2 percent from a year earlier after Oman raised domestic petrol and diesel prices, while housing and utility prices increased 0.6 percent and food and beverage prices fell 1.3 percent.

#### Saudi phone giant to buy 10% of Careem ride app

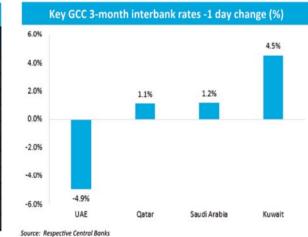
RIYADH: Saudi Arabia's largest telecommunications firm STC plans to buy a 10 percent stake in car booking firm Careem, the company said yesterday. Careem is a competitor of US-based Uber, a smartphone app that connects passengers and drivers. In a notice to the Saudi stock exchange, Saudi Telecom Co said the proposed stake is worth \$100 million, to be funded by STC's "internal financial resources." The investment is the latest high-profile Saudi venture since Riyadh in April announced its Vision 2030 plan to diversify the oil-dependent economy and broaden its investment base. "This move is in line with the company strategy to invest in the innovative digital world," STC said, adding it would "enhance communication via mobile within the transport system." Uber announced in June that Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund would inject \$3.5 billion to help the app's global expansion. Its rival Careem was founded in 2012 and has operations in 47 cities across the Middle East, North Africa, Turkey and Pakistan, STC said. STC is the largest Arab telecommunications firm in terms of capitalization. It has more than 100 million customers in nine countries including Turkey, South Africa, India and Malaysia.

higher oil prices post the output cut translate into additional revenues. Also KAMCO Research now sees a return to current account surplus in 2017 as plausible for the region, as against the deficit of 0.5 percent of GDP forecasted by the IMF, as balance of trade terms could improve if higher oil prices sustain and USD strength persists, leading to lower import bills for the region.

#### Medium term expectations

Post 2017, the Fed does see the possibility of bench-

	2016	2017	2018	2019
		GDP (Y-o-Y%)		
Sep-16	1.8%	2.0%	2.0%	1.8%
Dec-16	1.9%	2.1%	2.0%	1.9%
	Uner	nployment rat	e (%)	
Sep-16	4.8%	4.6%	4.5%	4.6%
Dec-16	4.7%	4.5%	4.5%	4.5%
	PCE	Inflation (Y-o-	·Y%)	
Sep-16	1.3%	1.9%	2.0%	2.0%
Dec-16	1.5%	1.9%	2.0%	2.0%
	Fe	d funds rate (	%)	
Sep-16	0.6%	1.1%	1.9%	2.6%
Dec-16	0.6%	1.4%	2.1%	2.9%



Source: US Federal Reserve

#### **Global risks**

We continue to expect that, GDP growth in the GCC region would bottom out in 2016, and improve in 2017 as higher oil prices would offset production cuts, and international funding initiatives would be incrementally positive for state budgets and future revenues. We expect them to continue to tap the international bond market in 2017, even as Kuwait decides to enter the market, after 2016 witnessed Saudi Arabia raising \$17.5 billion in a triple tranche offering, along with Qatar (\$9 billion) and Abu Dhabi (\$5 billion). However, though we remain optimistic about the measures taken so far by the GCC states, the rollover of several global risks leaves more room for employing additional initiatives to boost non-oil private sector growth. Energy subsidy rationalization and tax related initiatives such as VAT are seen as incrementally positive in our view. Inflation remains well within the ideal range as well, although prices are expected to increase at a slower pace than in 2016, from 3.6 percent to 2.6 percent in 2017, as per the IMF. Nevertheless, we see a lot of moving parts both globally in terms of risks, and regionally in terms of potential for higher revenues and better management of state finances, which hold the GCC's outlook in the coming year at a balance, in our view.

#### Saudi shipper Bahri dividend flat at 2.5 riyals

**DUBAI:** The board of National Shipping Company of Saudi Arabia (Bahri) has proposed an annual cash dividend for 2016 of 2.5 riyals (\$0.67) per share, according to a bourse filing yesterday. The company, the official oil shipper for Saudi Aramco, paid the same dividend in 2015.

### **EXCHANGE RATES**

Al-Muzaini	EXCHANGE CO.					
ASIAN COUNTRIES						
Japanese Yen	2.657					
Indian Rupees	4.541					
Pakistani Rupees	2.919					
Srilankan Rupees	2.062					
Nepali Rupees	2.843					
Singapore Dollar	215.490					
Hongkong Dollar	39.453					
Bangladesh Taka	3.831					
Philippine Peso	6.150					
Thai Baht	8.626					
GCC COUNTRIES						
Saudi Riyal	81.654					
Qatari Riyal	84.101					
ani Riyal	795.218					
Bahraini Dinar	813.070					
UAE Dirham	83.356					
ARAE	3 COUNTRIES					
Egyptian Pound - Cash	20.500					
Egyptian Pound - Transfer	16.819					
Yemen Riyal/for 1000	1.229					
Tunisian Dinar	133.920					
Jordanian Dinar	431.200					
Lebanese Lira/for 1000	2.040					
Syrian Lira	2.182					
Morocco Dirham	30.909					
EUROPEAN & A	AMERICAN COUNTRIES					
US Dollar Transfer	306.000					
Euro	327.110					
Sterling Pound	389.080					
Canadian dollar	233.940					
Turkish lira	88.310					

Swiss Franc Australian Dollar US Dollar Buying	304.480 231.030 304.800
	GOLD
20 Gram	238.39
10 Gram	122.12

5 Gram

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#### DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD

61.90

ata fan Transfar	Colling Data
late for Transfer	Selling Rate
IS Dollar	306.550
anadian Dolla	230.500
terling Pound	384.385
uro	322.080
wiss Frank	300.105
ahrain Dinar	812.640
IAE Dirhams	83.855
atari Riyals	85.080
audi Riyals	82.675
ordanian Dinar	433.540
gyptian Pound	16.875
ri Lankan Rupees	2.060
ndian Rupees	4.527
akistani Rupees	2.923
angladesh Taka	3.887
hilippines Pesso	6.143
yprus pound	168.345
apanese Yen	3.600
yrian Pound	2.435
Íepalese Rupees	3.825
Aalaysian Ringgit	69.340
hinese Yuan Renminbi	31.240
hai Bhat	9.535
urkish Lira	87.725

BAHRAIN EXCH	IANGE C	OMPANY WLL
CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
British Pound	Europe 0.377822	0.387822
Czech Korune	0.003881	0.015881
Danish Krone	0.039143	0.044143
Euro	0.315745	
Norwegian Krone	0.031458	0.036658
Romanian Leu	0.085058	0.085058
Slovakia	0.009215	0.019215
Swedish Krona	0.028798	0.033798
Swiss Franc	0.293170	0.304170
Turkish Lira	0.084259	0.094559
	Australasia	
Australian Dollar	0.216445	0.228445
New Zealand Dollar	0.208493	0.217993
	America	
Canadian Dollar	0.225053	0.234053
Georgina Lari	0.138615	0.138615
US Dollars	0.302800	0.307500
US Dollars Mint	0.303300	0.307500
	Asia	
Bangladesh Taka	0.003527	
Chinese Yuan	0.042685	0.046185
Hong Kong Dollar	0.037484	0.040234
Indian Rupee	0.000263	0.005519
Indonesian Rupiah	0.000018	0.000024

Japanese Yen	0.002527	0.002707
Kenyan Shilling	0.003157	0.003157
Korean Won	0.000248	0.000263
Malaysian Ringgit	0.064809	0.070809
Nepalese Rupee	0.002910	0.003080
Pakistan Rupee	0.002648	0.002938
Philippine Peso	0.006100	0.006400
Sierra Leone	0.000068	0.000074
Singapore Dollar	0.207639	0.217639
South African Rand	0.016354	0.024854
Sri Lankan Rupee	0.001649	0.002229
Taiwan	0.009514	0.009694
Thai Baht	0.008258	0.008808
	Arab	
Bahraini Dinar	0.807488	0.815986
Egyptian Pound	0.013871	0.023124
Iranian Riyal	0.000085	0.000086
Iraqi Dinar	0.000181	0.000241
Jordanian Dinar	0.427814	0.436814
Kuwaiti Dinar	1.000000	1.000000
Lebanese Pound	0.000149	0.000249
Moroccan Dirhams	0.020232	0.044232
Nigerian Naira	0.001274	0.001909
Omani Riyal	0.790721	0.796401
Qatar Riyal	0.083486	0.084936
Saudi Riyal	0.080753	0.082053
Syrian Pound	0.001302	0.001522
Tunisian Dinar	0.128712	0.136712
Turkish Lira	0.084259	0.094559
UAE Dirhams	0.082133	0.083833
Yemeni Riyal	0.001016	0.001096



## TRUMP STOCK RALLY MOSTLY BENEFITING THE BEST-OFF

**NEW YORK:** As the Dow nears 20,000 amid a Trump rally, longtime financial insiders see a difference compared with prior Wall Street landmarks: very little interest from the general public. Other milestones, such as when the Dow hit 10,000 in 1999, were accompanied by wide public discussion and celebration in the national media and at cocktail parties.

"You're not seeing that now," said JJ Kinahan, chief market strategic at TD Ameritrade. "At that time, it was almost pure euphoria at everything going on in the market." The difference in mood reflects the fact that, compared with past bull markets, the average American is less invested in the stock market and therefore not privy to-or a beneficiary of-the impressive gains in the Dow since election day.

"You've got to have money to be in the market in the first place and if you have been in the market, you've done extraordinarily well," said Benn Steil, director of international economics at the Council on Foreign Relations. "This is part and parcel of the wider of issue of inequality."

#### Middle class investors miss out

Participation in the stock market fell to an all-time low of 52 percent in 2016 from a peak of 65 percent in 2007, according to a Gallup survey released in

April. Gallup attributed the drop to the Great Recession which dented the public's ability to invest, as well as its confidence in the stock market as a worthwhile place to put funds.

The biggest hit was in the middle class, those with earnings between \$30,000 and \$75,000, whose participation plummeted to 50 percent from 72 percent. "Fewer Americans-particularly those in middleincome families-are benefiting from the recent gains in stock values than would have been the case a decade ago," Gallup said.

Low-income Americans are even less invested. Americans making less than \$50,000 represent 51 percent of the population, but make up just 25 percent of the investor population, according to a report by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. The Dow's flirtation with 20,000 marks the latest psychological milestone in the multi-year bull market since the index bottomed out in September 2009 at under 6,600 points.

The latest rally was spurred by the Republican sweep on election day which brought with it expectations for tax cuts, regulatory reform and massive public works investment expected to boost the economy and corporate profitability. The Dow has risen 8.2 percent since election day. But on Friday, the index retreated slightly to 19,843.41, due in part to profit taking in banking shares and some other sectors that surged after the election.

Further profit-taking could derail or at least delay the Dow's march to 20,000. But some analysts think a "Santa Claus" rally could lift the index above that level, as the holiday season brings good cheer, and low trading volume that make big moves more likely.

#### Cabinet of CEOs

The market believes "there is now an ability to affect change like there hasn't been in many years," said Briefing.com analyst Patrick O'Hare. Investors are enthusiastic about the likelihood of a pro-business agenda after President-elect Donald Trump's appointments of a host of business executives to key roles.

The picks include former Goldman Sachs executive Steven Mnuchin as treasury secretary, ExxonMobil chief executive Rex Tillerson as secretary of state and fast food executive Andrew Puzder as labor secretary. But the market is ignoring lingering questions about potentially adverse outcomes under Trump, such as a trade war with China, or an inter-party war with congressional Republicans who may balk at aspects of Trump's economic agenda, analysts said. "I can understand why people who own most of the stocks are optimistic based on a businessman president appointing mostly businessman," said Richard Sylla, a professor of the history of financial institutions and markets at New York University Stern School of Business. "I don't think the euphoria is going to extend much beyond the beginning of the year."

Josh Bivens, research director of the labor-backed Economic Policy Institute, said the stock rally was troubling because it was based not on broadly enjoyed economic growth, but on expectations of policies that will benefit large banks and other moneyed interests. "Corporate owners and managers have done really well over the last 30 years, whereas the vast majority of workers have not and I would like to see policy weigh in on the other side of that," Bivens said. Steil, of the Council on Foreign Relations, said the composition of Trump's appointments "doesn't seem to be consistent with his rhetoric during the campaign," which was centered on a populist message that resonated with the less-wealthy.

"Trump's got a lot of work in front of him trying to convince his working class supporters that he can deliver on their agenda, because boosting the Dow was clearly not their priority." — AFP



SANAA: UN humanitarian coordinator in Yemen Jamie McGoldrick holds a press conference in the capital Sanaa yesterday. — AFP

### CENTRAL BANK MOVE HAMPERS YEMEN WHEAT IMPORTS: UN

**SANAA:** Wheat imports into rebel areas of Yemen have become difficult after the central bank moved from the insurgent-controlled capital, a UN official said yesterday, in a war-torn country heavily dependent on food imports. "Four major importers of wheat into this country have informed the authorities (in Sanaa) that as of January they will no longer be able to fulfil their obligations," said the UN humanitarian coordinator in Yemen.

"We know it is very difficult for these

McGoldrick also said the imports of goods and medicine had been hampered by slow offloading due to damage at the rebel-held port of Hodeida on the Red Sea.

UN aid chief Stephen O'Brien said in October that "smashed cranes" at the port were hindering the entry of aid supplies to ease a deteriorating humanitarian crisis in Yemen. The Huthis and troops loyal to former president Ali Abdullah Saleh overran Sanaa in September 2014 and went on to

## CHINA AIMS BLOW AT IRON RICE BOWL IN RADICAL SHIFT Smashing the iron rice bowl could be costly

**PINGDINGSHAN, China:** China has ordered state firms to smash the decades-old system of providing cradle-to-grave welfare support, known as the country's "iron rice bowl".

But the order, part of a plan to reduce financial pressure on bloated and heavily indebted state-owned enterprises (SOEs), is likely to be easier said than done as cities navigate the social and financial wrenches the changes will cause. At the heart of soot-covered Pingdingshan in central China is the Pingmei Shenma Group, a state coal conglomerate that dominates the economy, society and air of the heavily polluted city in Henan province.

Apart from coal, it has chemicals and construction businesses. But it also has a startling number of other responsibilities.

It operates 41 hospitals and 18 schools and provides pensions, subsidised housing for workers, water, heating and power. It even runs a plush retirement home, complete with golf course, for its senior managers. The fate of these facilities, landmarks for the city's residents, is now unclear. If they are not closed down, much of the infrastructure will need to be renovated, which State Council researchers estimate will cost more than 1 trillion yuan (\$115 billion) nationwide.

Some of Pingdingshan's hospitals already had fewer miners to treat after capacity cuts in coal production. "We can only try to provide better services," a doctor, who only wanted to be identified by his surname Li, said at a small outpatient clinic near Pingmei Shenma's defunct Number Seven coal mine. condition for SOEs to become market entities," Xiao Yaping, head of the State-Owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission, said on the institution's website.

China's SOEs accumulated total debts of 85.3 trillion yuan by the end of September, in a credit splurge encouraged by Beijing following the global financial crisis. Executives have repeatedly called on Beijing to help reduce their costs. China's central government-administered SOEs run around 8,000 units providing community services, and the efforts to ditch them could also increase a firm's redundancy and labor redeployment costs, especially as authorities try to limit unrest in regions already hit by an economic downturn.

They spend 850 billion yuan a year on schools, pensions and other "social functions". Local government-run firms pay even more, a delegate to China's parliament said in March. In Henan, state firms spend 800 million yuan a year just to supply residents with heating, water and electricity.

#### Cutting the cord

While the economic slowdown and a fall in commodity prices have done the most damage to China's lumbering SOEs, expensive "social functions" have also contributed to punishing losses in recent years. "Today, when we are creating world class energy enterprises and competing against global firms, continuing to bear these heavy burdens is obviously outmoded and

the provincial authorities would respond to requests for comment. In a document sent to Pingmei Shenma and other state firms in Henan, local regulators warned that some health and education facilities would be shut down if they were not economically viable.

"Where there is duplication they will close them down," said a doctor surnamed Liu at an independent clinic near one of Pingmei Shenma's mines. "There are a lot of small pits that need to be closed and after they close, their medical institutions will go too."

Pointing to the challenges ahead, State Council researchers said the cost of transferring social functions to a local authority was as much as 4.3 billion yuan for the Longmay Group, a struggling state coal producer in northeast China's Heilongjiang province. That compared with annual running costs of 300 million yuan. The Kailuan Group, a coal producer in Hebei province, needs around 4.6 billion yuan to upgrade heating, water and power facilities to acceptable standards before transferring them, one estimate showed.

#### Insecurity

In Pingdingshan, teacher Zhang Kai is already experiencing change. Operational rights for the kindergarten where she works have shifted from the local coal mine to the staff of the school.

It must now stand on its own feet as a commercial business, Zhang said. "Every mine has a kindergarten and every situation is different,"

importers to get lines of credit on the open market," Jamie McGoldrick said, "because the central bank is no longer here in Sanaa". President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi in

September decided to move the central bank from the rebel-held capital to Aden, the temporary base of his government, after accusing the insurgents of running down Yemen's foreign reserves. Even before a Saudi-led coalition launched air strikes against the Huthi rebels in Yemen in March 2015, Yemen imported 90 percent of its food, and as much as 95 percent of its wheat, according to the United Nations. seize other areas of the country. A UN report released in August found that the rebels and their allies were diverting about \$100 million a month from the central bank, and that its foreign reserves had dwindled to \$1.3 billion from about \$4 billion in November 2014.

The relocation of the bank has been a major blow to the rebels, forcing them to halt salary payments to state employees in the areas of the country they control.

UN agencies in June warned that virtually all of Yemen was facing severe food shortages with seven million people in an "emergency" situation. — AFP "Though this is a big place, we are far away from the city centre, there is no good transportation and it isn't convenient for ordinary people to come," Li said. Beijing has given SOEs until 2020 to ditch their "social functions". For Pingdingshan, the deadline is more imminent because Henan wants to complete the process by the end of 2017 under a pilot project, putting it in the spotlight not only of Beijing but also other provinces facing similar challenges.

While state firms in wealthier regions of the country moved away from paying for social welfare services some years ago, poorer provinces and especially one-company towns like Pingdingshan struggled to make the switch given the central role their SOE played.

"Removing social functions and resolving the problems left behind by history is an important hard to sustain," said Halidan Abdulla Kader, a legislator from the northwestern frontier region of Xiniiang.

China's "iron rice bowl" system was launched in 1951. Many state-owned firms began life as government bureaus and frequently acted as microstates responsible for the entire social infrastructure of a region. The first cracks appeared in 1986 when a rapidly modernizing China introduced new pension schemes and put an end to permanent tenure at state firms. By 1995 it was calling for the systematic transfer of "social functions" in preparation for radical SOE reforms that closed thousands of bankrupt firms and led to more than 20 million layoffs.

Poorer provinces struggled to make the switch, especially in remote mining regions where the SOE was the only source of political authority.

Neither the Pingdingshan government nor

she said. "We don't really know what's going to happen next." At its peak, Pingmei Shenma's Number Seven Mine employed 8,000 workers. Now, around 500 miners turn up at the pit on a reduced wage of just 410 yuan (\$60.52) a month while the company tries to find jobs for them at other state mines. In the meantime, they while away the time playing cards.

"We worry the most about whether we have jobs or not," said one of them, a 51-year old miner who gave his name as Chen. Sitting in the gatehouse of the mine, Chen lifted his shirt to show the scars from a kidney operation, paid for by his company insurance that he assumes is no longer provided.

"When the company's performance gets worse, it doesn't pay health insurance. We haven't been getting it for several years," he said. "After the closure of the mine, a lot of the old welfare we get just isn't going to exist." — Reuters



## VIVA ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF 'MORE' PRIZES CAMPAIGN

**KUWAIT:** VIVA, Kuwait's fastest-growing and most developed telecom operator, announced 8th week draw's winners of KD 100, of "more" prizes campaign for postpaid customers.

The names of daily prize winners, KD 100, from 11 December until 17 December, were as follows: Majdi Mahmoud Younes Olayan, Mohammad Rashed Marzouq Albdayeh, Pratap Karanam, Faisal Ahmad Taleb Aljadhi, Mohammad Baker Hashem Ahmad, Saad Hadi Mohammad Alajmi, Qasem Mohammad Ali Hussain.

VIVA gives the customers a wonderful opportunity to win amazing cash prizes, KD 100 daily and KD 1000 at the end of each month, once they pay their VIVA bills through Direct Debit, VIVA website, VIVA's Kiosks, VIVA App or by calling 102. Customers earn one chance for each KD 1.

VIVA is the fastest-growing telecom operator in Kuwait. Launched in December 2008, VIVA makes things Possible for its customers by transforming communication, information and entertainment experiences. The company has rapidly established an unrivalled position in the market through its customer centric approach. VIVA's quest is to be the mobile brand of choice in Kuwait by being transparent, engaging, energetic and fulfilling.

### INFLUX OF CHINESE INVESTORS ANGERS MADAGASCANS

**SOAMAHAMANINA, Madagascar:** The mine had not yet opened, but Madagascans were already seething with rage and the Chinese management finally quit Soamahamanina, leaving behind empty tents and cigarette butts. For months, this small city in central Madagascar was engulfed by protests targeted at a Chinese gold mining company, Jiuxing.

Every Thursday, city residents would take to the streets in downtown Soamahamanina to demonstrate against Jiuxing, which had secured a 40-year gold mining licence on a 7,500-hectare (18,500-acre) piece of land.

For the protesters, the mining operation risked ruining their farms-one element of a nationwide aversion to the new wave of Chinese investors on the large Indian Ocean island.

Not just in Soamahamanina, but across the country Madagascans have openly expressed their hostility towards the growing presence of China, the country's largest trading partner. Anti-Chinese sentiment is on the rise in Africa as Beijing increases its business presence on the continent for natural resources while flooding the markets with Made in China goods.

"Madagascar belongs to the Madagascans, not the Chinese or any other foreigners," Fenohasina, a local student, told AFP. "Forty years of operation-that is called selling the country," said Marise-Edine, a street vendor. Many farmers who were eager to take advantage of the windfall and had agreed to sell their land to the Chinese miner, are now regretting it.

"Our compatriots are angry with us and accuse us of selling away the country," said farmer Perline Razafiarisoa.

But a local worker at Jiuxing blames the hostilities on politics. "It's people from outside who are encouraging people here to dislike the Chinese," said Chrysostome Rakotondrazafy, a Jiuxing Mines foreman. "There is political manipulation behind all this."

Buckling under the weight of the relentless

protests, the Chinese mining workers had little choice but to pack up their bags and leave in October. "As a company we think we have the right to stay, but for the sake of social appeasement, we chose to withdraw," Stella Andriamamonjy, the mine's spokeswoman, said. "We hope to return under new terms, (and) repair past mistakes."

How soon that will be, she could not say.

#### Xenophobic tensions

For the locals in Soamahamanina, the return of the Chinese would not be welcome. "I would like to tell our leaders that the big powers in this world are only turning us against each other to destroy our country," warned resident Marie Rasoloson. With more than 800 companies now on the island, China has rapidly established itself as Madagascar's largest trading partner. In a country where 90 percent of the population lives below the poverty line, such investment has given an unexpected boost to infrastructure development. But, as elsewhere on the African continent, the mass arrival of Chinese investors has created tensions.

In 2011, police stepped in to prevent riots in the Chinatown section of the capital Antananarivo after an Asian trader beat up his two Madagascan employees. Three years later, clashes over wage demands left six people dead at a "Chinese" sugar factory in western Morondava town. The Chinese embassy has warned the authorities in Madagascar against tarnishing its image as an investment destination. — AFP



This file photo taken on October 6, 2016 in Soamahamanina shows people protesting the presence of the Jiuxing Chinese mining company near the mining site. -— AFP



## AFTER VIENNA, TERM STRUCTURE OF OIL SHOWS A HUMPBACK

Grude oil prices have responded to the recent OPEC and non-OPEC deal in Vienna by bouncing firmly into the \$50+/bbl range. Notably, the term structure of the Brent crude oil market has pushed from a very steep structural contango into a humpback shape, showing a discount in near-dated contracts but backwardation past the September 2017 contract. Why? The agreement to cut output may push the oil market into deficit as soon as January. Yet, stocks remain exceedingly high and it should take months to normalize them. Meanwhile, producers keep selling paper oil forward into 2018, anchoring longer dated contracts. Producer, consumer, passive investor,

storage, and spec positioning flows all feed into this awkward oil curve. We refer to it as "the hunchback of Vienna".

Is this oil curve shape new? No, the crude oil market developed a similar shape that lasted for 28 months in 2005-07. Could it persist? Yes, we believe it could persist for the next four months and possibly longer for four reasons. First, we expect large-scale high yield and investment grade oil producer forward selling to continue in Calendar 2018. Second, high inventory levels will likely keep depressing front-month oil contracts until the crude overhang is partly cleared in 2H17. Third, a possible surge in passive investor flows next year could dampen a shift to

### **BOFA MERRILL LYNCH REPORT**

backwardation in front-to-third month oil spreads. And fourth, on the consumer side, airlines may not come back in size into the market unless spot oil prices spike above \$75/bbl, an unlikely event.

Given the relentless selling pressure of shale producers, US nat gas provides a good template for oil structure. Since US shale gas output started 9 years ago, the front-to-thirteenth month curve has moved from contango into backwardation three times. Each contango period lasted for at least 2 years. For Brent to move into backwardation, we estimate total OECD crude oil inventories would have to drop to 1.1bn barrels. With stocks currently at 1.18 billion bbl, this

133,676,900

7,883,916

2.887

rotation will likely take at least 6 months of crude inventory declines of 440 thousand b/d. Said differently, the "hunchback of Vienna" may not depart until the July Brent contract becomes prompt on April Fools' day. Should OPEC and Russia fail to deliver deep cuts in 1H17, it could very well take a lot longer.

#### Macro outlook

Global GDP in USD terms at market exchange rates is stagnant. China's GDP is changing, with services overtaking industrial activity as a driver of growth. US Republican win means stronger USD, higher rates, more trade barriers, and reduced US oil supply restrictions.

Fed tightening cycles and a strong USD do not bode well for oil, as rising US rates and flatter yield curves hurt EM demand. Global oil output was unchanged YoY in 3Q, as OPEC growth offset again non-OPEC field decline rates of 5.0 percent. We project non-OPEC supply to contract by 910 k b/d this year and 30 k b/d in 2017, compared with an average 20-year expansion of 710 k b/d. We see shale oil output bottoming out in 1Q17. Efficiency gains are flattening out everywhere except in the Permian, which is set to lead the output recovery as prices rise.

With global inventory trends diverging, our work shows Light Louisiana Sweet (LLS) is turning into the global oil bellwether 2017 global oil demand growth will average 1.2mn b/d in 2017 while supply is roughly unchanged, resulting in a 2017 Brent price of \$61.

OPEC agreed to cut crude oil output by

1.2mn b/d with key non-OPEC producers indicating a 558k b/d curb, a first since 2001. Country quotas and an independent production monitoring committee are also part of the deal, so we expect firmer compliance.

OECD demand will grow by 80k b/d this year as Americans drive over 3tn miles, but we project flat OECD demand in 2017. Yet we see EM oil demand expanding by 1.2mn b/d in 2017 but acknowledge downside risks on the back of higher  $\bar{\text{US}}$ rates. OPEC's action won't propel prices much above our \$70 mid-year target. Longer-term, we estimate global oil demand will increase by 1.2mn b/d per annum over five years at \$55-\$75, and by 1.7mn b/d at \$30/bbl. Peak global oil demand lies beyond 2050 if oil stays below \$100, as transport demand offsets efficiency and substitution. Faster EV adoption or efficiency gains, e.g., due to higher oil prices, could alter this path and bring peak demand by 2030.

#### 2017 Energy Outlook

Refining margins have rebounded from their September lows across all regions on planned and unplanned refinery outages. Yet we now see margins falling as refining costs structures rise and global crude stocks rebalance faster than product stocks. Also, we project CDU capacity additions globally of 960 and 860 thousand b/d in 2017 and 2018, and remain bearish distillate. While the demand bounce in 2010 was cyclical and diesel-geared, today's petroleum demand is consumer-and thus gasoline-geared.

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	· · ·	Glo	bal St	ock In	dices			É
Index	Previo	us Close	Last	Price	Cha	inge	Daily Performance	
Dow Jones	19,8	52.24	19,8	43.41	-8.83	•	-0.04	13.1
NASDAQ	-	56.85	5,43	37.16	-19.69	٠	-0.36	8.5
S&P 500	1115-114	52.03	100 CO. 41	58.07	3.96	•	0.18	10.4
Financial Times DAX		99.01 66.40	1.00000000	04.01	12.63 37.61	A	0.18	12.1 6.1
CAC 40	4,8	19.23		33.27	14.04		0.29	4.2
Swiss		14.30	1000000	7.77	13.42	•	0.16	-6.6
Nikkei 225 Topix	-	73.79 42.72		01.15	127.36	A .	0.66	1.9
Hang Seng	-	59.40		20.75	-38.65		-0.18	0.4
Straits Times	2,9	30.77	2,93	7.86	7.09		0.24	1.9
		ME	NA Sto	ock In	dices			
Index	Previo	us Close	Last	Price	Cha	inge	Daily Performance	
Kuwait	5,6	58.49	5,65	1.00	-17.49	•	-0.31	% 0.9
Saudi Arabia		90.91		7.38	46.47		0.66	2.5
Dubai Abu Dhabi		54.46	1	i4.69	0.23	<b>A</b>	0.01	12.8
Abu Dhabi Bahrain	-	52.99 38.35		96.53 88.70	33.54 0.35		0.75	3.6
Qatar		58.99		24.13	-134.86	÷	-1.30	-0.6
Oman	-	28.65	d Net adda	28.27	-0.38	¥	-0.01	5.9
Lebanon		24.62 30.19		24.62 78.49	0.00	•	0.00	4.7
.lordan Egypt		26.03		17.28	-1.70 91.25	•	-0.08	61.6
Могоссо		60.42	11,3	04.83	244.41	Â	2.21	23.9
Tunisia	5,4	32.10	5,43	2.21	0.11	À.	0.00	7.73
	Glo	oal Cu	rrenci	es Exe	change	a Rate	•	
Currency	Kuwaiti Dinar	Saudi Riyal	US Dollar	Euro	Sterling Pound	Swiss Franc	Japanese Yen	Austral Dolla
Kuwait Dinar		12.1417	3.2510	3.1107	2.5999	3.3342	383.55	4.447
Saudi Riyal	0.08236	0.7040	0.2678	0.2562	0.2141	0.2746	31.59	0.366
US Dollar Euro	0.30760	3.7348	1.0451	0.9568	0.7997	1.0256	117.98	1.368
Sterling Pound	0.38462	4.6700	1.2504	1.1933		1.2827	147.19	1.71
Swiss Franc	0.29992	3.6416	0.9750	0.9321	0.7796		114.81	1.33
Japanese Yen Australian Dollar	0.00261	0.0317	0.0085	0.0081	0.0068	0.0087	86.24	0.011
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	124412-140	Kuwaiti	the protect of	Bahraini	Qatari	Umani	Emirates	Egypti
Currency	US Dollar	Dollar	Saudi Riyal	Dinar	Riyal	Riyal	Dirham	Poun
US Dollar Kuwaiti Dinar	3.2510	0.30760	3.7348	0.3740	3.6268	0.3831	3.6570 11.8888	18.84
Saudi Riyal	0.2678	0.08236	16.1417	1.2160 0.1001	0.9711	0.1026	0.9792	5.044
Bahraini Dinar	2.6735	0.82237	9.9850		9.6963	1.0242	9.7770	50.36
Qatari Riyal	0.2757	0.08481	1.0298	0.1031	0.4477	0.1056	1.0083	5.194
Omani Riyal Emirates Dirham	2.6104 0.2734	0.80294	9.7491	0.9764	9.4672 0.991/	0.1048	9.5461	49.17
Egyptian Pound	0.0531	0.01633	0.1982	0.0199	0.1975	0.0203	0.1941	
		Glo	bal Int	erest	Rates			
Currency Kuwaiti Dinar	1-Week	1-Month 1.13	-	onth 44	100000	onth 75		rear .06
US Dollar	0.70	0.73		99		31	-	.69
Euro	-0.39	-0.38	-	.32		.22	-	.08
Sterling Pound	0.24	0.26		37		54	-	79
Swiss Franc Australian Dollar	-0.80	-0.82		.73 62	-	.66 63	-	.50
Japanese Yen	-0.01	-0.08		.03	-	02		.13
		Gl	obal B	ond Y	ields			
Country		Year		/ear	10	Year	30	Year
United States	-	.26		07		60	-	.18
Europe United Kingdom	-	.81 .12	- 90°53	.48 61		31 43	-	.07 .09
			N:	noditie				
							Daily	Vearl
Index	Previo	us Close	Last	Price	Cha	inge	Performance %	Perform %
Kuwait Oil		.57	11-54	.05	0.48	<b>A</b>	0.95	43.1
Brent	-	.91	1.2.5	.89	-0.02	• •	-0.04	30.2
West Lovac					0.10		0.19	20.3
West Texas Gold	113	3.94	113	3.94	0.00	le .	0.00	6.41

#### **Daily Kuwait Stock Exchange Report**

#### Sunday 18 December 2016

Index	С	hange	Closing	Last Closing	High	Low	
Price index		-17.49	5,651.00	5,668.49	5,672.72	5,641.29	Volume
Weighted Index	٣	-0.40	377.95	378.35	378.72	376.82	Value (KWD)
KSX 15	۳	-0.45	889.23	889.68	893.71	885.72	Number of Trade

ecurity	High	Low	Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	C	hange	Security	High	Low	Volume	Trades Value (KD)	Trades	Last	Ch	hang
ARIN	71	71	12700	902	4	71		5.0	SOKOUK	36.5	36.0	4509315	162,347	72	36.0	-	-
ARUS	37.0	36.5	244,600	8,993	10	37.0	Ā	1.0	KRE	61	61	151,000	9,211	5	61	_	
3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	380	-	0.0	URC	96	95	91,000	8,695	3	95	-	
APESCO NERGYH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	810	-	0.0	NRE	102	100	600,710	60,808	18	102	٧	
PI	45.5 40.5	44.5 39.5	126,600	5,691 74,601	8	45.5 40.0	*	-0.5	TAM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	360 470	-	_
BAR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	102	-	0.0	AREEC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	200	_	-
l & Gas			2,242,650	90,186	60	783.56		3.13	MASSALEH	39.5	37.0	45,766	1,716	7	39.5	-	
									ARABREC	29.5	28.5	452,573	13,082	12	28.5	۳	
FOUC	182	182	34,000	6,188	7	182	-	0.0	ERESCO	40.5	39.5	1,891,672	75,681	19	39.5	٧	
PCC LKOUT	490	490	55,900	27,391	6	490 650	-	0.0	MABANEE INJAZZAT	850 76	840 76	78,588 200,869	66,019 15,266	6 5	840 76	-	_
LQURAIN	228	224	86,559	19,609	15	224	-	-4.0	INVESTORS	26.0	23.0	45,548,901	1,102,036	438	23.0	A 7	-
asic Materials			176,459	53,188	28	989.79	W.	-5.42	IRC	28.5	27.5	2,159,610	60,645	49	28.0		
									ALTIJARIA	82	81	111,079	8,999	5	81	-	
CEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	420	-	0.0	SANAM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	31.5	-	
ABLE	0.0	0.0	0 350,510	0 134,829	24	325 385	-	0.0	AAYANRE	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	64 69	-	_
HIP	168	164	230,000	37,930	11	164	*	-2.0	ALAQARIA	26.5	23.5	218,600	5,393	15	25.0	*	_
CEM	910	910	5,500	5,005	1	910	_	0.0	MAZAYA	112	112	90,775	10,167	4	112	-	
APER	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	275	-	0.0	ADNC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	11.0	-	
RC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	68 270		0.0	TIJARA	0.0 47.5	0.0 44.5	0 170,000	7 795	0 16	89 47.5		
GMC	305	300	24,232	7,275	2	300		-5.0	TAAMEER	22.0	22.0	50,000	7,785	10	22.0	v	-
CC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	118	-	0.0	ARKAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	91	-	-
BMMC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	190	-	0.0	ARGAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	176	-	
ICBM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	206	-	0.0	ABYAAR	22.5	22.0	1,170,647	25,890	17	22.5	-	
	48.5	47.5	566,080	27,229	15	47.5	٧	-0.5	MUNSHAAT	55	52	1,578,046	83,982	70	53		_
CCI YPSUM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	50 95	-	0.0	FIRSTDUBAI KBT	58 41.0	56 40.5	980,065 1,403,300	55,864 56,889	32 40	58 40.5		
ALBOOKH	61	59	12,615	744	3	61		3.0	REAM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	196	-	
GLTY	630	620	65,559	40,657	5	620	v	-10.0	MENA	23.0	20.0	6,656,027	139,320	134	20.0	٧	
DU	204	204	3,000	612	1	204	۸	2.0	ALMUDON	37.5	36.0	4,303,482	157,578	85	36.5		
	43.5	43.0	170,084	7,314	6	43.0	-	0.0	MARAKEZ	30.5	30.5	4,000	122	3	30.5		
GL CPC	55 174	53 172	378,931 12,350	20,137	13	53 174	*	-2.0	AWJ	55 67	52 64	3,272,643 956,640	177,983 62,457	97	54 65	A _	-
UMANSOFT	2,120	2,120	3,000	2,139 6,360	1	2,120	* *	-100.0	Real Estate	0/	04	76,695,308	2,369,035	1,197	868.99	v	
AFAIS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	206	-	0.0									
AFWAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	385	-	0.0	KINV	81	81	65,000	5,265	4	81	-	
FC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	30.5	-	0.0	FACIL	158	154	506,994	79,810	19	158	-	
AYADEEN GC	28.5 610	27.0 600	10,595,328	293,258 6,305	182	27.5 610	¥ ¥	-0.5	IFA NINV	32.5 100	31.5 98	288,600 351,118	9,285 34,536	7	32.0 99	-	_
TCC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	56	-	-10.0	KPROJ	510	500	49,000	24,800	3	500	-	_
PAC	670	670	5,000	3,350	1	670		10.0	COAST	38.5	38.5	1,160,253	44,670	20	38.5	-	
AFCO	234	226	1,191,332	276,228	72	234	۸	10.0	SECH	43.0	42.5	573,120	24,408	14	43.0	-	
UBARRAD	56	56	331,984	18,591	9	56	-	0.0	SGC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	90	-	_
DGISTICS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	70 80	-	0.0	ARZAN	33.0	33.0	15,100	498	2	33.0 84		
CEM CEM	0.0	0.0	0 246,087	18,211	10	74	*	0.0	MARKAZ KMEFIC	84 25.5	83 23.0	105,863 264,153	8,788 6,193	6	23.0	-	
IC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	70	-	0.0	ALAMAN	49.5	48.5	468,600	22,891	23	49.5		-
CEM	79	79	577,720	45,640	10	79	Ŧ	-1.0	ALOLA	45.5	45.0	103,400	4,655	5	45.5		
кwс	89	87	122,128	10,826	6	89		2.0	ALMAL	21.5	20.5	2,431,292	51,201	29	21.0	۳	
PEC	82	81	2,500	203	3	82	×	1.0	GIH	29.5	28.5	1,247,800	36,120	22	29.0		
oustrials			14,904,440	962,841	383	1280.77		-9.85	AAYAN BAYANINV	31.0 33.5	30.5 33.0	691,704 604,621	21,130 20,012	21	30.5 33.0		
SH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	136	-	0.0	OSOUL	60	55	21,000	1,158	3	60	-	
SH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	64	-	0.0	KFIC	37.0	37.0	18,147	671	3	37.0	-	
APCO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	95	-	0.0	KAMCO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	118	-	
ATTL	236	228	500	116	4	236	-	0.0	NIH	62	61	100,100	6,106	3	61		
ANAH OULT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	88 192	-	0.0	UNICAP MADAR	50 0.0	47.5	2,674,800	129,394	80	50 12.5	A	
DOD	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	2,600	-	0.0	ALDEERA	33.5	32.0	520,900	16,789	23	32.0	Ŧ	_
onsumer Goods			500	116	4	1140.14		1.39	ALSALAM	45.0	44.0	1,476,931	65,723	36	45.0		
	//E013		1010	0210					EKTTITAB	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	37.5		_
нс	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	240	-	0	ALMADINA	41.0	41.0	195,000	7,995	8	41.0	-	_
ACO	0.0 425	0.0	0 2,995	0	2	920 425	-	0	NOOR TAMINV	47.0	46.0	109,210	5,074	6	46.5 280	*	-
ealth Care	420	410	2,995	1,229	2	1275.76		0.00	EXCH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,500	-	-
									TAIBA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	75	-	_
CIN	1,020	960	514	523	3	1,020	-	0	KSHC	31.0	29.0	150,150	4,365	6	29.0	٧	
нот	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	265	-	0	ASIYA	32.0	28.5	96,104	2,784	10	30.0	٧	_
ULTAN ABLETV	61 0.0	59	264,361 0	15,597 0	11 0	59	-	0	GNAHC AMWAL	35.0 22.5	34.5 22.0	340,000 125,100	11,870 2,752	12 5	35.0 22.0		_
ABLETV	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	61 385	-	0	ALIMTIAZ	96	94	1,896,008	2,752	43	94	<b>v</b>	_
AHR	152	152	500	76	1	152	-	0	MANAZEL	29.0	28.5	1,099,870	31,351	26	28.5	-	_
ULAFUEL	116	116	21,330	2,474	13	116	-	0	NIND	128	126	184,030	23,188	12	126	-	
UNTAZAHAT	81	76	1,335,593	106,053	50	81		5	BIIHC	22.0	21.5	3,464,709	75,964	21	22.0		
ZEERA DOR	770	760	5,694 50,971	4,356 5,871	2	770	*	-10	SENERGY	35.0 0.0	34.0	531,812 0	18,330 0	21	34.0 56	*	-
JTUREKID	0.0	0.0	50,971	5,871	13	114	-	0	KPPC	44.5	44.0	168,010	7,392	11	44.0	_	_
RAI	150	144	74,921	10,961	6	150		4	TAHSSILAT	41.0	41.0	500	21	1	41.0	-	
MAH	42.0	41.0	787,200	32,666	36	41.5	-	0	JEERANH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	53	-	_
ezzan	940	940	116,900	109,886	13	940		10	EKHOLDING	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	170	-	
onsumer Service	5		2,657,984	288,464	148	923.76		7.77	GFH INOVEST	158 74	156 74	1,405,320	220,226 296	37	158 74	A	_
AIN	430	420	2,397,978	1,015,402	83	425		5	Financial Services	11.92424	74	23,508,319	1,204,782	578	586.72	W	
OREDOO	1,120	1,100	1,157	1,275	3	1,120	-	-20									
TSTELEC	42.0	41.0	1,568,750	65,051	20	41.5	٣	-1	Investment Instru	ments		0	0	0	0.00	-	- 21
VA	930	900	88,168	81,576	40	920	-	0	400	0.15		00.100				-	
elecommunicatio	115		4,056,053	1,163,303	146	629.90	V	-1.56	ASC OSOS	242 130	240 130	32,400 500	7,826 65	6	242 130	¥	_
ВК	660	650	192,102	124,949	16	650	-	0	FUTURE	90	90	5,000	450	1	90		-
BK	250	246	792,750	197,312	31	246	v	-4	HAYATCOMM	47.5	47.5	2,000	95	3	47.5	-	-
зк	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	415	-	0	Technology		1994 1997 T	39,900	8,436	11	604.92	Ŧ	
зк	300	295	71,000	20,950	4	300		5									_
MUTAHED	395	390	5,024	1,984	2	390	٧	-5	SANAD	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	100	-	_
B JRG	206 305	206	582,309 240,250	119,956 72,076	12	206 300	-	-5	AFAQ ALSHAMEL	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	162 460	-	_
FIN	540	530	115,102	61,036	12	540	-	-5	EFFECT	38.0	38.0	247,617	9,409	6	38.0	-	
OUBYAN	400	395	264,779	105,015	23	400	-	0	AJWAN	40.0	39.0	29,850	1,164	3	40.0	-	
JB	196	196	25,500	4,998	2	196	-	0	MASAKEN	56	51	23,000	1,275	5	55		
HMR	38.0	37.5	2,648,500	99,319	42	37.5	۷	-1	DALQAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	350	-	
ARBABANK	226	224	3,958,360	893,507	151	224		2	ALEID	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	90	-	
anks			8,895,676	1,701,104	304	837.36	¥	-2.24	MIDAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,220	-	_
NS	255	250	100,000	25,250	2	255	Å	5	FLEX THURAYA	42.5	42.5	15,149 0	644 0	1	42.5	*	_
NS INS	255	250	100,000	25,250	3	255 620	A -	0.0	AMAR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	158 54	-	_
NS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	430	-	0.0	Parallel Market			315,616	12,493		1030.02		2)
140	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	99	-	0.0									
INS		0.0	0	0	0	180	-	0.0									
INS JWAITRE	0.0				1.2												
/INS UWAITRE TI	50	49.5	53,000	2,648	3	50		0.5									
INS JWAITRE			53,000 28,000 0	2,648 840 0	3 5 0	50 30.0 355	A A	0.5 0.5 0.0									

For more information, call Global Investment House on 1 80 42 42, www.globalinv.net

## Kuwait 📥 Times 🌆





## MUTAWA ALKAZI TO LAUNCH 2 NEW GAC CAR MODELS GAC GM, BOARD MEMBERS VISIT KUWAIT, CHINESE EMBASSY



**KUWAIT:** GAC Motor's General Manager Yu Jun, Head of International Business Division, Liu Haoyuan, and Manager of Regional and International Sales Division, Mark Chang, Deputy Manager of Regional Sales, Leu Kong, and Sales Manager, Luo Zhongyi, arrived in Kuwait on an official visit. They were welcomed by Mutawa Alkazi's CEO Omar Alkazi.

The delegation visited the main showroom of Mutawa Alkazi in Al-Rai Area and expressed their admiration about the distinctive site of the showroom and its design, car display and the efficient sales team. The delegation also visited Mutawa Alkazi's showroom located at A-Tilal Complex in the Shuwaikh area where Omar Alkazi briefed them about the showroom size, capacity and the large number of cars on display.

Furthermore, the delegation visited the service center and identified the mechanism of work and the stages of maintenance, starting from welcoming the administrators of the center and the supervisors up to the entry of a car and its registration in detail. They listened to their owners' comments about car status and how they provide customers information about car maintenance.

The general Manager, Yu Jun, and the delegation accompanying him, expressed their admiration about the services being offered at the service center and system of work. He appreciated the staff's efforts in dealing with customers. They expressed satisfaction over the deployment of distinctive appliances at the center including the internet service and visited the hall exclusively designated for women.

GAC's delegation also visited the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, accompanied by the CEO Omar Alkazi, the General Manager of Sales in Mutawa Alkazi, Ahmad Abu Al-Huda, and the Director of Business Development in the Group, Nasser Al-Musallam, where they were received by the Ambassador Wang De, and the officers of the embassy. They discussed the strong relationship that connects Kuwait and China in all fields especially in the fields of economy and commerce which is underscored by the distinctive relationship with Mutawa Alkazi. The relationship has become even strong-footed due to the representation of the company in Kuwait as it became an example for the ideal and successful partnership.

The delegation presented a model of two new cars, the GS4 and GA8. The new cars will arrive in Kuwait and will be showcased at the Mutawa Alkazi showrooms at the beginning of the new year

Ambassador Wang De praised the distinctive products of cars and motors provided by GAC Motor Co, which became one of the most popular Chinese trademarks worldwide. As a token of appreciation and as a symbol of the strong relationship with GAC Motor Co, Omar Alkazi, presented plaques to the GAC Company and to the delegation members. Praising the level of cooperation with the company, he said they are partners in success as he looked forward to more progresses and successes in their collaboration. He said that their visit had achieved the desirable objectives and that they had enjoyed their visit to Kuwait.







**NBK MONEY MARKETS REPORT** 

**KUWAIT:** Using a hawkish tone, the FOMC took interest rates up by 25 bps this week and the 'dot plot' projections for 2017 showed three further rate hikes in 2017 up from the two hikes anticipated in September. The FOMC's statement also acknowledged the strengthening economic activity and mentioned that measures of inflation compensation have moved up considerably even if it remains low. The median forecast for US 2017 GDP growth was revised up to 2.1 percent, from 2.0 percent, while the unemployment rate forecast was revised down by a small amount to 4.5 percent, from 4.6 percent. Overall, the communiquÈ was perceived as bullish as the market reaction was a one way move taking the dollar index to new elevated levels.

In a matter of one month since the Trump's election, we have witnessed US 10 year rates moving explosively from 1.7 percent to over 2.60 percent the highest level since mid-2014, and the Dollar index settling above the 103.00 level. With such a move, the dollar has become the highest vielding currencies in the major 10, just after the Australian and the New Zealand dollar. With such ramifications, it becomes clear that global portfolios are likely to flock into the US in search of higher yields in a global negative rates environment. The worry that might arises from such an environment is the fact that after almost after eight years of very easy monetary policy, the world has amassed a great amount of debt denominated in cheap Dollar funding. Now that rates are moving higher, a sense of panic is happening as non-US borrowers demanding record amounts of USD-denominated debt at the same time causing an overshoot in the dollar and a drop in all the other currencies. For now, markets are pricing an exodus from emerging markets and from any economy yielding negative rates.

Now that US yields have reached extreme levels in a very short period of time, markets could push them even higher in order to find the pain threshold in the bond market and the dollar is likely to push higher as yields spread further. It is clear that if this environment persists in the first quarter of 2017, then we might create a major headache for global Central banks.

In summary, the Federal Reserve raised interest rates for the first time this year from 0.50 to 0.75 percent. Other than the fact that the economy is at full capacity, the decision to raise rates was also backed by higher inflation expectations. If the new administration delivers on its fiscal and infrastructure promises, 2017 could be the year when inflation takes over from deflation fears.

In the news conference following the rate hike decision, Fed Chair Janet Yellen offered an upbeat assessment of the state of the US economy, however, warned that monetary policy will be operating under a "cloud of uncertainty" until there is more clarity about the economic and fiscal policies of incoming President Donald Trump. In addition, all FOMC members recognized that there is considerable uncertainty about how economic policies may change and what effect they may have on the economy.

Back to Europe, the Bank of England left current policy measures on hold although the interesting take away from the statement was the acknowledgement from the MPC that 'the sterling exchange rate had appreciated and this would by itself point to less of an overshoot in inflation relative to the target in the medium term, though month-to-month volatility was to be expected as market participants' view on the UK's future relationship with the EU continues to evolve. The MPC also said that the economy will soften in 2017 as consumer spending weakens and the vote to leave the European Union is likely to affect investment plans. The BOE expects the economy to grow by 0.4 percent this quarter after a 0.5 percent expansion in the three months through September.

In Japan, the resulting widening of US-Japan interest rate differentials has driven the USD/JPY exchange rate sharply higher, thereby raising the prospect of faster potential inflation in Japan due to upward pressure on imported prices. With the rise of global bonds yields following the sudden shift in the US curve, the BoJ can allocate its OE operations on the Japanese government Bond's longer duration, keeping bond yields near the desired levels as part of their yield curve control strategy. This mechanism should in theory keep yields low in Japan and push investors in seeking higher returns abroad, hence increasing the downside pressure on the Yen.

On the currency front, the US dollar continued to climb this week to the highest level in 14 years at 103.56, after the FED's meet-

ing. After starting the week at 101.51, the dollar index closed on Friday at 103.020.

The Euro continued to slip to the lowest level since January 2003 versus the US dollar as the spread between US and German 10year bond yields widened the most since 1990. The Euro opened on Monday at 1.0545 against the dollar and reached a low of 1.0371. The pair ended the week at 1.0447.

The USD/JPY pair started the week at 115.44 and grasped a fresh high of 118.66 on Thursday, after the spread between Japanese Government Bonds and the US 10-Year treasuries are at their widest since 2011 when Abenomics began. USD/JPY closed on Friday at 117.98. In the commodities space, gold plunged to a 10-month low of 1,122.00 on Wednesday as investors tend to hold less non-yielding assets when interest rates rise. The metal opened the week at 1,159.000 and closed the week at 1,133.93.

#### Mixed US data

Retail sales in the US barley rose in November, indicating a pause in spending after robust gains in the previous two months. The weakness stemmed mostly from the biggest drop in auto sales in eight months as they account for about 20 percent of all retail spending. However, most retailers reported improved results last month. Sales of home furnishings, groceries and gasoline led the way while restaurants saw strong foot traffic. In summary, retail sales increased by 0.1 percent and were down by 0.5 percent from the previous month.

US industrial production on the other hand marked its third decline in the past four months in November, due to a steep decline in utility output and a dip in manufacturing. The fall was the largest since March, when the index fell 0.9 percent. In details, the index fell 0.4 percent in November, after a 0.1 percent rise in October. Utilities production dropped 4.4 percent in November as warmer-thannormal temperatures reduced demand for heating.

#### **Germany remains resilient**

German economic sentiment was unchanged in December from the previous month and missed forecasts for a slight increase. The latest survey indicates a stable economic growth over the next six months. However, the considerable economic risks arising from the tense situation in the Italian banking sector, as well as the political risks surrounding upcoming elections in Europe may affect future confidence. The economic sentiment remained at 13.8 points in December against a forecast of 14.2.

Europe's PMI survey showed that manufacturing growth in the EU helped offset a softening of growth in the services sector. Despite the rise of political risks and the boost to consumers' real income growth from lower energy prices have now faded away, the continuous drop of the currency helped offset those risks.

In details, the eurozone manufacturing PMI rose to 54.9 for December from 53.7 in November. This was above consensus expectations of 53.9 and the highest reading for 68 months. The manufacturing sector gained support as exports increased strongly with an important boost from a weaker single currency. In the service sector, the Eurozone Services PMI fell to a two-month low of 53.1 from 53.8 in November, while economists predicted a score of 53.8.

#### Inflation on the rise

UK employment fell for the first time in more than a year in the three months through October, signaling that the labor market may be softening and adding to signs of economic weakness emerging in the aftermath of the "Brexit" vote. Britain's employment level in the August-October period fell by 6,000 individuals or 0.1 percent, while the number of people who are no longer seeking work rose by 76,000, the largest quarterly increase in economic inactivity since mid-2014.

The unemployment rate however remained unchanged at 4.8 percent, the lowest level in more than a decade, defying analysts' expectations for a 0.1 percent increase. In conclusion, a slowing economy could weaken Britain's negotiating hand in the "Brexit" process.

On a different matter, UK inflation expanded to more than a two-year high in November as clothing prices rose the most in 6 years.

#### Kuwait Kuwaiti dinar at 0.30605

The USDKWD opened at 0.30605 yesterday morning.

### **GLOBAL EQUITY OUTLOOK 2017**

#### **By Hayder Tawfik**

Iobal economic growth is moving slowly but finally it is emerging with most economies. This is quite different from the past few years. Also, it appears that

global economic growth set to improve more than what we have been experiencing in the past few years. However, this improvement should be supported by steady consumer spending, increase in employment and

household strength in the United States, commodities producing countries, a rebound in economic activities in the Europe and continued accommodative monetary policies by non-US central banks.

The US economic cycle has been the longest in recent memories. It is going into 2017 with steady growth and falling unemployment. The economic expansion is most likely to continue even in the face of the Federal Reserve raising interest rates. Although the pace of economic growth may not be that strong but there are signs of optimism for the US economy and global equity markets under new president. If global growth does not accelerate then more fiscal stimulus measures will be introduced rather than easing monetary policies.

Some commodities producing economies and emerging markets may see their economies rebalancing followed by structural reforms. Many developed economies are slowly coming out of the disinflationary pressures they been facing over the past few years. In the United States, hints of wage growth, encouraging employment data and an overall build in key inflation gauges have led to growing market sentiment that the US Federal Reserve is on track to raise interest rates further in 2017.

The eurozone and Japan have exhausted their monetary policies and most likely that they will introduce some fiscal measure to bolster their economic growth. I believe that fiscal stimulus should be used to spark inflation along with financial repression to keep real interest rates negative. It seems that they vears of austerity measures are over. European Central Bank President Mario Draghi recently appealed for more expansive budgetary policy. Meanwhile, Japanese policymakers

announced a fiscal stimulus package, and the Bank of Japan commenced efforts to engineer a steeper yield curve i.e., increase the differential between longer-term and shorterterm government bond yields.

#### Uncertainties

Although there are some concerns about low global economic growth, high governments debts and political uncertainties as well as an aging US bull market in stocks and elevated equity valuations relative to history in key sectors, it appears the general consensus of equity market investors is that caution seems warranted. The recent rallies in oil and commodity prices and the improvement in the private sectors access to money and credit have eased some short-term risks but still there are challenges over the longer term.

The recent rallies in global stock markets have stretched equity valuations and it appear to be pricing in strong economic and earnings rebounds, while relaxed central bank policy seems to be reflected in the prices of many global equities. Investors should focus on and analyze very carefully those stocks that are rightly positioned to take advantage of an accelerated global economic growth. Using a bottom up approach might uncover great investment ideas but also applying a top down approach to take advantage of a rebound in inflation that might drive the global financial markets in the years ahead.

In an inflationary environment, equities historically have generally fared better than many other asset classes in particular fixed income bonds. This kind of economic environment should be favorable for banks, financial institutions, commodity related economies and consumer cyclical sectors. As for the US industrials and infrastructure related sectors should benefit from the promises made by the newly elected US president. Industrial companies should be the key beneficiaries of potentially higher growth and expanding infrastructure spending. I believe a potentially stronger US economy offers a positive dynamic for many other economies and markets, allowing for a potential shift in equity market leadership from the United States to other parts of the world.

Obviously, there are lots of uncertainty surrounding the speed of global economic growth and the duration of the current economic cycle and its expansion but I think the trend has changed and at present there are more support for equity investments than there was over the past few years.@Rasameel



## Kuwait 📥 Times 🍜





## NBK LAUNCHES 'NBK TAP & PAY' TO OFFER CONVENIENT BANKING

### INNOVATIVE SERVICE WILL SAVE CUSTOMERS' TIME AND EFFORT

**KUWAIT:** Aiming to upgrade its suite of banking services that meet customers' demands and expectations, NBK launched its new NBK "Tap & Pay" Service that will save customer's time and efforts when making payments on NBK Tap & Pay enabled POS terminals.

Using contactless technology, the innovative service enables customers using NBK Tap & Pay Cards by simply tapping the card on the POS machine without entering the PIN or signing the receipt for payments up to KD 10. As for the payments from KD 10.001 to KD 100, the customer can use NBK Tap & Pay by entering the PIN and signing the receipt. NBK Tap & Pay is truly a way of making every day payments quicker and easier.

This brand new service translates NBK's drive to introduce the best-in-class banking products and services that match the highest industry standards and use the latest cutting-edge technology for the ultimate banking experience.

Suresh Bajpai, NBK's General Manager-

Consumer Banking Group, said that NBK Tap & Pay is considered to be the latest in banking cards' technology that provides the highest security and privacy layers, while saving customers' time and effort. He affirmed that NBK aims to always facilitate customers' transactions and provide them with an outstanding banking experience at all times.

Hanadi Khazal, NBK's Assistant General Manager- Consumer Banking Group, invited customers to visit the nearest NBK branch to apply for the new NBK Tap & Pay Cards and enjoy the fastest way to pay. . NBK Tap & Pay makes payments easier and quicker for both individual customers and Business Banking customers. . It's worth noting that NBK strives to introduce a wide range of banking solutions and products that satisfy customers' needs and match their lifestyle. As a result, NBK's ongoing offerings play an integral role in attainting its leadership position in the banking industry locally and abroad.

By launching the new NBK Tap & Pay, a new service has been added to the wide range of banking products that meet the highest security standards, including the NBK Mobile Banking and NBK Online Banking that allow customers to bank anywhere at any time, in addition to the SMS Banking through which customers are notified of any changes on their account or card balance, the WhatsApp service that was launched recently, the ATMs and CDMs and more. Functionalities are also added on an ongoing basis on existing products and services to further enhance customer experience in dealing with NBK reaffirming NBK's commitment to their customers. NBK recently also launched its ITM (Interactive Teller Machine) which enables customers through a video to do banking transactions, remotely without visiting the branch. This service is available in the Avenues Mall from 10 am to 10 pm 7 days a week.

### **BURGAN BANK ANNOUNCES** WINNERS OF YAWMI ACCOUNT

KUWAIT: Burgan Bank announced yesterday the names of the lucky winners of its Yawmi account draw, each taking home a prize of KD 5,000.

The lucky winners for the daily draws took home a cash-prize of KD 5,000 each, and they are:

- 1. Nazzal Zaid Khalaf Almutairi
- 2. Mousa Ahmad Alyahya
- 3. Fahad Naeem Jawad Alattabi
- 4. Umer Farouk Sundal Mohd

5. Muneera Abdullatif Muhammed

In addition to the daily draw, Burgan Bank also offers a quarterly draw with more chances to win higher rewards, entitling one lucky customer to win KD 125,000 every three months. The Yawmi Account offers daily and quarterly draws, the quarterly draw requires customers to maintain a minimum amount of KD 500 in their account for 2 months prior to draw date. Additionally, every KD 10 in the account, will entitle customers to one chance of winning. If the account balance is KD 500 and above, the account holder will be qualified for both the quarterly and daily draws.

Burgan Bank encourages everyone to open a Yawmi account and/or increase their deposit to maximize their chances to becoming a winner. The more customers deposit, the higher the chances they receive of winning.

For more information on opening a Yawmi account or about the new quarterly draw, customers are urged to visit their nearest Burgan Bank branch and receive all the details, or simply call the bank's Call Center at 1804080 where customer service representatives will be delighted to assist with any questions on the Yawmi account or any of the bank's products and services.

Established in 1977, Burgan Bank is the youngest commercial Bank and second largest by assets in Kuwait, with a significant focus on the corporate and financial institutions sectors, as well as having a growing retail, and private bank customer base. Burgan Bank has majority owned subsidiaries in the MENAT region supported by one of the largest regional branch networks.

The Bank has continuously improved its performance over the years through an expanded revenue structure, diversified funding sources, and a strong capital base. The adoption of state-of-theart services and technology has positioned it as a trendsetter in the domestic market and within the MENA region. Burgan Bank's brand has been created on a foundation of real values - of trust, commitment, excellence and progression, to remind us of the high standards to which we aspire. 'People come first' is the foundation on which its products and services are developed.

The bank was re-certified with the prestigious ISO 9001:2008, making it the first bank in the GCC, and the only bank in Kuwait to receive such accreditation for the third consecutive year. The Bank also has to its credit the distinction of being the only Bank in Kuwait to have won the JP Morgan Chase Quality Recognition Award for twelve consecutive years.



## **DUBAI PARKS AND RESORTS CELEBRATES INAUGURATION WITH GALA SPECTACULAR**

DUBAI: At a press conference yesterday in front of the world's media, Dubai Parks and Resorts marked the opening of its third theme park, MOTIONGATE Dubai and confirmed the destination's inauguration ceremony will take place tomorrow in the presence of UAE dignitaries.



**AL-TIJARI ANNOUNCES WINNERS** OF AL-NAJMA ACCOUNT DRAW

Over 1,500 of the world's media, UAE digni taries and celebrities will attend the formal inauguration of Dubai Parks and Resorts, the region's leading theme park destination. 200 children have also been invited to attend the event in cooperation with the Awqaf and Minors affairs foundation and the Make A Wish Foundation.

The event, which is being held in a specially built arena over the river at Riverland Dubai, will showcase each of its three theme parks in a very special show involving the dancers and actors from Dubai Parks and Resorts' live entertainment team. The show will also feature a live performance of the Dubai Parks and Resorts official theme song entitled "All the Wonders of the Universe" by the composer himself, academy award winner Alan Menken who has written the scores for many of the world's most famous animated movies.

The finale will light up the sky above the 30.6 million square feet destination with a pyrotechnic spectacular. The show will be filmed live by the official media partner, Dubai Media Incorporated (DMI) and screened for guests in the parks and for residents and visitors at locations across Dubai.

The festivity marks the official inauguration of all three theme parks: MOTIONGATE Dubai, the first ever collaboration between three of Hollywood's most legendary studios, Columbia Pictures, DreamWorks and Lionsgate; LEGOLAND Dubai, the first LEGOLAND theme park in the Middle East; and Bollywood Parks Dubai, a first-of-its-kind theme park that showcases rides and attraction based on some of Bollywood's biggest blockbusters. It will also host the LEGOLAND Water Park, the region's first water park catering to families with children aged 2-12. The entire destination is connected by Riverland Dubai - a uniquely themed retail and dining destination, and guests will be able to stay at the Lapita Hotel, a Polynesian themed family hotel part of the Marriott Autograph Collection. Raed Kajoor Al-Nuaimi, CEO of DXB Entertainments PJSC, the owner of Dubai Parks and Resorts said: "After three years, it is a very proud moment for us to present the region's largest integrated theme park destination and we look forward to welcoming our guests to this very special inauguration event."

"Our aim was to create a legacy for entertainment in the region, for the communities and charities we will support and for the residents and tourists who will make great memories and visit us again and again. We are immensely proud of the destination we have created for the UAE and its visitors and would like to take this opportunity to thank our colleagues and partners for everything they have done to bring Dubai Parks and Resorts to life."

Dubai Parks and Resorts, owned by DXB Entertainments PJSC, is the Middle East's largest multi-themed leisure and entertainment destination comprising three separate theme parks: MOTIONGATE Dubai the region's largest Hollywood-inspired theme park featuring immersive rides and attractions based on Hollywood hits; LEGOLAND Dubai, a unique, interactive theme park for families which will bring the well-known LEGO brick to life in a playful learning environment and Bollywood Parks Dubai, a first-of-its-kind theme park that will showcase rides and attraction based on some of Bollywood's biggest blockbusters. It will also host the LEGOLAND Water Park, the region's first water park catering to families with children aged 2-12. Expected to open in late 2019, Six Flags Dubai will be destinations fourth theme park and the regions first Six Flags themed park.

The entire destination is connected by Riverland Dubai - a uniquely themed retail and dining destination at the heart of Dubai Parks and Resorts, and guests can stay at the Lapita Hotel, a Polynesian themed family hotel part of the Marriott Autograph Collection.

Located on Sheikh Zayed Road opposite the Palm Jebel Ali in Dubai equidistant to Dubai and Abu Dhabi International Airports the destination offers over 100 rides and attractions.

the Al-Najma Account daily draw yesterday. The draw was held under the supervision of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry represented by Abdulaziz Ashkanani.

#### The winners of the Al-Najma daily draw are:

— KD 7000, Saleha Fayaj Ahmed Faiza Khalid Bashir Ahmed — KD 7000, Noorjhan Mohammed Ismaeel — KD 7000, Abdelhadi Abdulrasool Ali Bo Abbas

- KD 7000, Mohammad Hasan Ibrahim — KD 7000.

Al-Najma awards are now brighter and bigger than ever with the revamped Al-Najma account, all your dreams will be turned to reality. On top of offering the highest daily prize in Kuwait for KD 7,000, now our Mega prize draws got bigger to reach KD 250,000.

The new prizes scheme for Al-Najma account:

Daily draw to win KD 7000

would start from KD 100,000 to KD 250,000

and start morn	
1ST quarter	— KD 100 000
2ND quarter	— KD 150 000,
3RD quarter	— KD 200 000,
4TH quarter	— KD 250 000

#### With Al Najma you have more chances

to win greater prizes:

• Each KD 25 kept in your account gives vou one chance to win

 Each KD 25 kept in your account for one week will give you a chance to enter the daily draw.

• Each KD 25 kept in your account for 3 months will give you chance to enter the quarterly draw.

#### **Additional features:**

#### ATM card

 Issue a credit card against your account Obtain all CBK banking services

You deserve to win! Open an account now with just KD 500 and you will enter all draws.



#### KIB WINS 'BEST SHARIA-COMPLIANT BANK IN MENA 2016' AWARD

**KUWAIT:** In recognition of its commitment to offer the best Sharia-compliant banking solutions, Kuwait International Bank (KIB) was recently bestowed with the Best Shariacompliant Bank in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) 2016 Award from CFI.co, the leading print journal and online resource specializing in the finance and banking sectors.

KIB received the award for the second consecutive year as a result of its leading role in the Islamic banking industry, and its commitment to offering both corporate and individual clients a wealth of products and services, in full compliance with the principles of Islamic Sharia.

Speaking about this achievement, Sheikh Mohammad Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah, Chairman of KIB, said: "This award comes as a testament to KIB's commitment to offering its clients a diverse and comprehensive range of innovative banking solutions, designed to suit the individual needs and aspirations of customers who prefer to conduct their banking under a fully Sharia compliant model. We are immensely proud to have received this honor from an independ-



Sheikh Mohammad Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah

ent international assessment body, which is considered to be one of the most prominent London-based organizations specializing in the finance and banking sectors."

Al-Jarrah further added: "Being named Best Sharia-Compliant Bank in the MENA region for 2016 is a continuation of KIB's ongoing streak of successes and achievements. This accolade serves to further enrich our existing record of excellence and leadership within the Islamic banking sector, on both a local and a regional level."

efforts of the Bank's Fatwa & Sharia Supervisory Board, who plays a key role in overseeing all internal and external operations, in addition to monitoring all of the Bank's products and services, in order to ensure complete compatibility with Islamic Sharia regulations. He further reiterated KIB's strong belief that the success of any organization is dependent on the efforts and dedication of its employees; noting that the Bank's team features highly qualified and experienced banking professionals across all levels of the organization, who all work together to help KIB attain its strategic objectives and long-term goals.

KIB has garnered numerous local and international prestigious awards over the past few years. One of the biggest accolades came from World Finance, with KIB being named "Best Islamic Bank in Kuwait" consecutively in 2014, 2015 and 2016, as well as "Best Islamic Bank in the GCC" in 2016 as part of the annual GCC Investment & Development Awards. Most recently, KIB also won the "Best Banking Vision" Award for the year 2016 by CPI Financial in the Islamic KIB's Chairman also applauded the Business and Finance Awards category.



Amazing news from

> Al-Najma account gives you the biggest daily prize in Kuwait!

## Kuwait 🗠 Times 🎫

## TECHNOLOGY

## ZAIN WINS 'BEST BRAND' TITLE **TELECOM REVIEW EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2016**

**DUBAI/KUWAIT:** Zain Group, a leading mobile telecom innovator in eight markets across the Middle East and Africa, is proud to announce that its brand has been identified as the 'Best Brand' for telecom in the Middle East for 2016 at the gala ceremony of the Telecom Review Summit Excellence Awards held in Dubai on 13 December, 2016.

Telecom Review is a leading industry publication and the award recognizes the outstanding performance of Zain's brand across all its markets, which has come to represent the highest standard of customer service at all its touch points. Winners were chosen based on recognized and demonstrated capabilities in their specific sector by an independent panel of 15 experienced industry veterans. Zain has been a recipient of the 'Best Brand' accolade at other regional events in the past, confirming the brand's success in inspiring hope and delivering happiness since its inception in 2007.

The success at the Telecom Review Awards has been driven by the tangible developments occurring within the company, reflected by it brand, which is representative of the continual investment in network upgrades that the operator is making. Zain's technology innovation is also positively impacting customer experience, reinforcing the company's brand values and making it one of the most respected and recognized corporate brands in the Middle East.

Commenting on the award of the latest accolade, Zain Group CEO Scott Gegenheimer said, "We are proud to be recognized once again as a leading brand in the region and continue to adapt ourselves in ensuring the brand brings out the best in us and makes us strive to offer the best customer experience possible, as our loyal customers deserve no less."

Zain is an ardent supporter of continual innovation and forging strong partnerships, and its relationship with other well-regarded brands such as Uber and Booking.com, for example, have led to the reinforcement of the Zain brand itself. Zain also made strategic investments in smart city consulting firm, neXgen and mobility solutions developer and consultancy firm FOO to fast-track its digital lifestyle offerings.

The company's marketing campaigns across the region on various media channels have captured the hearts and minds of millions of people across the Arab World and afar. Most recently, Zain's



Group CEO Scott Gegenheimer receives Best Brand award.

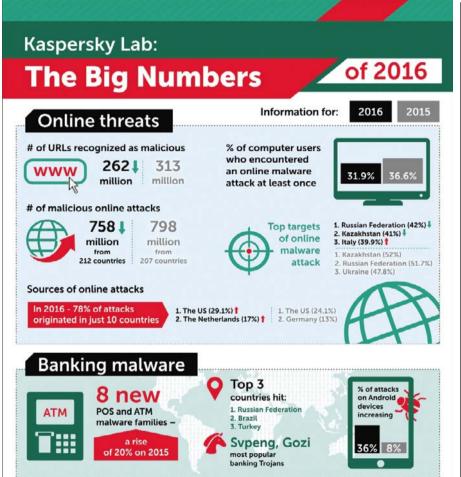
Ramadan 2016 TVC had a remarkable 10 million views on YouTube, in a space of only 30 days, with the company's Ramadan EID 2016 TVC also attaining 18 million views to date, both relevant and indicative factors of the brand power of Zain! Today, Zain Group and its local operations now boast more than 8 million

fans on Facebook, more than 4.5 million followers on Twitter, and nearly one million on Instagram. Over the past 4 years, Zain Group's and operations' numerous YouTube channels across the region have had in excess of 100 million views.

Sustainability, transparency and thought-leadership are at the very core

of Zain's business and this is reflected in every aspect of the company's day-today operational activities. Zain's annual Sustainability Report highlights the company's continued hold of its regional leadership position in pursuing its sustainability agenda and supporting its communities through outreach activities such as capacity-building, education, socio-economic development, and environmental stewardship. In addition, with a focus on supporting the entrepreneurial start-up ecosystem, Zain partnered with the MIT Pan Arab Start Up Competition for the past two years and most recently supported the global MIT Innovate for Refugees competition. ENDS

Zain is a leading telecommunications operator across the Middle East and Africa, providing mobile voice and data services to over 45.8 million active customers as of 30 September, 2016. With a commercial presence in 8 countries, Zain operates in: Kuwait, Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and South Sudan. In Lebanon, the Group manages 'touch' on behalf of the government. In Morocco, Zain has a 15.5 percent stake in 'INWI', through a joint venture. Zain is listed on the Kuwait Stock Exchange (stock ticker: ZAIN).



## KUWAITI STUDENTS LEARN CODING TO ENHANCE CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

Hour of Code sessions delivered across select schools in Kuwait

KUWAIT: Microsoft Corp and Code.org unveiled the Minecraft Hour of Code Designer, a coding tutorial for students and educators created for Hour of Code, an annual, global campaign held during Computer Science Education Week. The new web-based tutorial - available for free at http://code.org/minecraft - enables beginner coders to create and share their own simple "Minecraft" game, and is designed to empower anyone to begin learning the problem-solving and critical thinking skills required in today's tech-fuelled world.

The Microsoft Kuwait team organized Hour of Code sessions in two schools; Abraq Khaitan Secondary School for Girls and Microsoft Showcase School; Ibn Al Ameed Secondary School, where Microsoft's Expert Educator Ahmad Ashour delivered training to over 50 students on the important elements of coding. Additionally, a community led event driven by Barcamp also took place in Al-Shaheed Park, attended by over 30 participants from different schools across Kuwait. Students of all ages participated in the event, learning Hour of Code techniques and also received certificates upon completion of the training.

Created by "Minecraft" game designers at Mojang and Microsoft, in partnership with Code.org, the fun and easy-to-learn one-hour experience builds on the success of last year's record-breaking "Minecraft" tutorial, which reached more than 30 million students worldwide. With the goal of inspiring millions more to try coding for the first time - and to keep going on their journey of learning computer science - as of the launch, the tutorial is available in 10 languages, including Spanish. It is scheduled to be available in 50 languages from Dec. 5 onwards. With the immense popularity of "Minecraft" around the world, Microsoft and Code.org believe the tutorial has the potential to reach people of all ages and likeness. Women and girls already compose nearly half of the game's global fan base. The tutorial also underscores Microsoft's commitment to ensuring all young people have the opportunity to learn computer science, an economic and social imperative in this era of digital transformation, and Microsoft aims to reach students most likely to be among those without access, particularly girls and minorities. "We are partnering with Code.org again this year to make computer science more accessible to millions of youth around the world with 'Minecraft' and Hour of Code," said Satya Nadella, CEO, Microsoft. "I am inspired by the 'Minecraft' generation who view themselves not as players



of a game, but as creators of the new worlds they dream up. This is the generation that will imagine, build and create our future, and together we can equip them with the computational thinking and problem-solving skills to seize the opportunities ahead."

shop by visiting microsoft.com/youthsparkprograms and also visit their local Microsoft Store to learn more.

In addition to the latest tutorial and coding events, Microsoft has also been receiving rave reviews from educators on the newly launched "Minecraft: Education Edition" title, a fully featured title that brings the magic of "Minecraft" to the classroom for more immersive, longterm lesson plans.



### SERVERS FOR SALE, GLOBAL BOTNETS AND A STRONG FOCUS ON MOBILE KASPERSKY LAB'S THREAT REVIEW FOR 2016

DUBAI: In 2016, the world's biggest cyberthreats were related to money, information and a desire to disrupt. They included the underground trade of tens of thousands of compromised server credentials, hijacked ATM systems, ransomware and mobile banking malware - as well as targeted cyberespionage attacks and the hacking and dumping of sensitive data. These trends, their impact and the supporting data are covered in the annual Kaspersky Security Bulletin Review and Statistics reports, published today.

In 2016 Kaspersky Lab research also discovered the extent to which companies struggle to quickly spot a security incident: 28.7% said it took them several days to discover such an event, while 19% admitted it took weeks or more. For a small but significant minority of 7.1%, it took months. Among those that struggled most, eventual discovery often came about through an external or internal security audit, or an alert from a third party, such as a client or a customer. Further details on how a delay in detection impacts business recovery costs can be found in the Executive Summary of the review.

#### Other things we learned in 2016:

1. That the underground economy is bigger and more sophisticated than ever: Just look at xDedic - the shady marketplace for more than 70.000 hacked server credentials that allowed anyone to buy access to a hacked server, for example one located in an EU country's government network, for as little as \$6.

2. That the biggest financial heist did not involve a stock exchange as expected: instead it used SWIFT-enabled transfers to steal \$100 million

3. That critical infrastructure is worryingly vulnerable on many fronts: as revealed at the end of 2015 and into 2016 by the BlackEnergy cyberattack on the Ukrainian energy sector that included disabling the power grid, wiping data and launching a DDoS attack. In 2016 Kaspersky Lab experts investigated industrial control threats and discovered thousands of hosts around the world exposed to the Internet, with 91.1 percent carrying vulnerabilities that can be exploited remotely.

4. That a targeted attack can have no pattern: shown by the ProjectSauron APT, an advanced, modular cyberespionage group that customized its tools for each target, reducing their value as Indicators of Compromise (IoCs) for any other victim.

5. That the online release of vast volumes of data can directly influence what people think and believe: as evidenced by the ShadowBrokers and other personal and political data dumps.

6. That a camera or DVD player could become part of a global Internet-of-things cyber-army: as the year ends it is clear that the Mirai-powered botnet attacks are only the beginning.

"The number and range of cyberattacks and their victims seen in 2016 has put the subject of better detection at the top of the business agenda. Detection is now a complex process that requires security intelligence, a deep knowledge of the threat landscape, and the skills to apply that expertise to each individual organization. Our analysis of cyberthreats over the years has revealed both patterns and unique approaches. This accumulated understanding underpins our active defense tools, as we believe protection technologies should be powered by security intelligence. It also sits at the heart of our growing number of partnerships and collaborations. We use the past to prepare for the future, so that we can continue to protect our customers from undetected threats, before they do any harm," said David Emm, Principal Security Researcher, Kaspersky Lab.

An overview of intelligence-based security protection can be found here.

#### The notable statistics for the year include:

 36 percent of online banking attacks now target Android devices, up from just 8 percent in 2015.

 262 million URLs were recognized as malicious by Kaspersky Lab products, and there were 758 million malicious online attacks launched across the world - with one in three (29 percent) originating in the US and 17 percent in the Netherlands.

Designed for ages 6 and up, the Minecraft Hour of Code Designer teaches students to create their own "Minecraft" experience where they can program the rules. They can make chickens that drop gold, or zombies that run away instead of attacking. Along the way, students use Code.org's familiar drag-and-drop coding interface to learn computer science concepts such as object-oriented programming, event handlers and repeat loops. Players face a series of 12 challenges, culminating in creating their own simple game, which they can share with friends.

"Code.org was founded with the vision that every student in every school should have the opportunity to learn computer science - not only because it's foundational for any career, but because students love it," said Hadi Partovi, cofounder and CEO, Code.org. "Minecraft' is a special game that appeals to a diverse global community. We're delighted to have the chance to teach students coding with the fun familiarity of 'Minecraft,' to engage students of all backgrounds and skill levels."

In support of Code.org and the global Hour of Code campaign, Microsoft will also lead thousands of youth coding events in more than 60 countries. During Computer Science Education Week, this includes hundreds of free workshops hosted by Microsoft Stores across the globe. Students can reserve a spot in a store work-

Code.org is a 501c3 public non-profit dedicated to expanding participation in computer science and increasing participation by women and underrepresented students of color. Its vision is that every student in every school should have the opportunity to learn computer programming. Code.org is the organizer of the annual Hour of Code campaign, which has engaged 10 percent of all K-12 students in the world, and the leading provider of curriculum for K-12 computer science in all of the largest school districts in the United States. Code.org is supported by philanthropic donations from corporations, foundations, and generous individuals. including Microsoft, Facebook, the Infosys Foundation, Google, Omidyar Network, Ballmer Family Giving, and others.

Microsoft (Nasdaq "MSFT" @microsoft) is the leading platform and productivity company for the mobile-first, cloud-first world, and its mission is to empower every person and every organization on the planet to achieve more. . Microsoft Gulf opened its Dubai-based headquarters in 1991. Microsoft Gulf today oversees Microsoft activities in Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, the UAE and Yemen.

#### **Cisco Global Cloud Index**

## ME AND AFRICA CLOUD DATA CENTER TRAFFIC TO GROW 440% BY 2020

**DUABI:** The recently released sixth annual Cisco Global Cloud Index (2015-2020) reveals that global cloud traffic is expected to rise 3.7-fold, up from 3.9 zettabytes (ZB) per year in 2015 to 14.1 ZB per year by 2020. In Middle East and Africa, data center traffic will reach 451 exabytes per year by 2020, up from 105 exabytes per year in

data centers.

2015. This rapid growth of cloud traffic is attrib-

uted to increased migration to cloud architec-

tures and their ability to scale quickly and effi-

ciently support more workloads than traditional

operators are also able to achieve greater opera-

tional efficiencies while flexibly delivering a

growing variety of services to businesses and

consumers with optimal performance. To better

understand data center growth, new analysis on

application workloads was developed for this

year's report. The following business and con-

• Business workloads dominate data cen-

sumer projections were revealed:

With greater data center virtualization, cloud

ter applications and are growing:

• Business workloads will grow by 2.4 fold from 2015 to 2020 but their overall share of data center workloads will decrease from 79 to 72 percent.

• Consumer workloads, while smaller in number, are growing faster: During the same time, consumer workloads will grow faster by 3.5 fold.

• By 2020, consumer workloads will account for 28 percent (134.3 million) of total data center workloads, compared to 21 percent (38.6 million) in 2015.

• By 2020, video streaming workloads will account for 34 percent of total consumer workloads, compared to 29 percent in 2015.

• By 2020, social networking workloads will account for 24 percent of total consumer workloads, compared to 20 percent in 2015.

• ToT/analytics/database workloads are growing the most in terms of share of business workloads with collaboration and compute workloads largely maintaining their share.

• Video and social networking will lead the increase in consumer workloads, each respectively grows their percentage significantly.

• By 2020: video streaming workloads will account for 34 percent of total consumer work-

loads, compared to 29 percent in 2015; social networking workloads will account for 24 percent of total consumer workloads, compared to 20 percent in 2015; search workloads will account for 15 percent of total consumer workloads, compared to 17 percent in 2015.

"Over the past year, we've seen a variety of businesses and organizations develop plans for cloud migration or adoption.

The move to the cloud is imminent as cloud computing has advanced from an emerging technology to an essential scalable and flexible networking solution," said Mike Weston, Vice President, Middle East, Cisco. "With multiple trends influencing the growth of data center and cloud computing such as increasing digitization, the widespread adoption of multiple devices and connections and the growth of mobility, the importance of cloud readiness cannot be overemphasized."

"Although our region has made significant strides to reach a capable level of supporting basic and intermediate cloud services, the focus now turns to continuing to improve network capabilities to support the advanced cloud applications that organizations and end users expect and rely upon," added Weston.



## Kuwait 🗻 Times 🎰

## IN BENIN, 'SMART-VALLEYS' BRING RICE BOUNTY

OUINHI, Benin: Daniel Aboko proudly shows off the 11 hectares of paddy fields he shares with other farmers - a small spread that produces a bounty of food thanks to smart irrigation and a hardy strain of rice. In just four years, small farmers in Ouinhi, southeastern Benin, have seen their rice harvest double from three to six tonnes of rice per hectare. They produce so much, in fact, that they have created an unusual problem for West Africa: a local glut. "People come here to ask us questions and they invite me to their fields to train them," beamed Aboko, after parking his motorbike. "It's quite common in Ouinhi," he said.

Some 500 rice growers work in 20 paddy fields in the town of 40,000 people in the hilly, rural department of Zou. They accepted an invitation from the Africa Rice Centre, or AfricaRice - a notfor-profit research and training center to change their irrigation system, and it's worked wonders. "In 2013, there was a drought but the producers on the pilot sites had rice, while the others didn't," said Sander Zwart, a researcher at AfricaRice.

Specialists in rice breeding and irrigation, AfricaRice has devised a system called Smart-Valleys, in which humid

inland valleys - natural catchment areas for rainfall - are scouted out for ricegrowing potential. The project's team then work with local farmers, explaining the benefits of an irrigation system that is cheap and sustainable - provided it is built in the right areas, and used at the right times. But for the change to happen, it needs the farmers' extensive knowledge of the terrain and characteristics of the soil.

#### 'The plant gives back'

The work has entailed moving some paddy fields into moist valleys, which are flooded at key times, and tossing out concrete aquaducts, replaced them with earthen embankments forming rows of ditches. "Rice needs water, but not all the time," explained Aboko, who is president of the Ouinhi cooperative. "With this system, when the time comes to give water, we do so - if we shouldn't, we drain it away. "What you give to the plant, it will give that back to you!'

The aim of the project - also being trialed in neighboring Togo - is not only to fight against drought but also to better use rainwater, which is often the only source of local irrigation for paddy fields. "Before, people would choose some-



OUINHI, Benin: Cultivator Janvier R stands in a rice field in a "Smart-Valleys" benefitting from a new irrigation system on Nov 21, 2016. — AFP

where and cultivate without thought," said Zwart. "And when there was no water, they couldn't do anything." Local farmers are involved at every step. "We clear the vegetation with them and they are the ones who design the layout according to the lanes of running water, the slope of the terrain and the size of plots," said Zwart.

No matter how little it rains, the new system allows farmers to produce crops. But another part of the success story is due to the rice strain - a hybrid of African and Asian cultivars called Nerica, which is shorthand for New Rice for Africa. It brings together genes from high-yield Asian strains and an ancient African strain that is low-yield but resistant to drought and less thirsty than its Asian cousin. The strain was created by AfricaRice, which gave producers their first seeds. Growers have since then

bought more from their own profits.

#### Sales problems

Guaranteeing a consistent harvest does not mean the farmers' troubles are completely solved. "The growers don't always manage to sell their produce because they have multiplied their yield in a short space of time," said Felix Gbaguidi, a director at the ministry of agriculture. "They hadn't always anticipated that aspect. But some organizations are being set up to look after processing the rice, and marketing."

Even so, Aboko wants to increase his yearly harvest from one to three. And there is room for Benin to increase its production. Back in 2009 the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) envisaged Benin becoming self-sufficient in rice by 2011. Yet last year, France's agriculture ministry said the west African country was still bringing in 50,000 tonnes of rice from abroad. With surplus yields it is perhaps marketing and sales development that Benin needs to take its rice industry to the next level. One hurdle is consumer resistance, for many people prefer the aromatic imported rice from Asia to the hardy, nutty local grain. —AFP

## **CONGOLESE COCOA WAITS FOR** PEACE TO PURSUE SWEET FUTURE

MBAU, DR Congo: Antoine Kakule Kihumuledi longs for a car to transport his cocoa crop and, like fellow residents in the Beni region in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, he wants peace so he can pursue his dreams. Kakule, 51, is a pioneer in cultivating cocoa in this area of Nord Kivu province, which has been ravaged by war and violence for two decades. He began planting in the middle of the Second Congo War (1998-2003) and had his first harvest sometime around 2007.

With the help of a sickle mounted at the end of a long shaft, the father of six children cuts the yellow and orange pods from the cocoa trees which grow on his plantation in Mbau, some 25 kilometres (15 miles) to the north of the town of Beni. But for the past two years the region has

been afflicted with waves of massacres that have killed 700 civilians, mostly hacked to death.

Congolese officials have blamed the attacks on the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), a group of rebels dominated by puritanical Ugandan Muslims, but several expert reports have suggested that other groups, including elements within the Congolese army, took part in some killings. The insecurity in the region is hindering the potential for cocoa cultivation to open a way for "an agricultural middle class to emerge," said Jacques Matumo, administrator for ESCO Kivu, a local cocoa company. "We lost a lot of growers" in the massacres, he said. Some who survived "abandoned their fields" and their crops rotted, if they weren't stolen first, he added.

#### **Coffee Substitute**

Kakule says he feels safe as the Congolese army is stationed nearby, but admits he doesn't dare venture further than their outpost. In a country where the UN estimates nearly nine out of 10 people are living on less than \$1.25 per day, Kakule considers himself fortunate. He feeds his family with cassava and vegetables grown on his farm, and the cocoa is a cash crop. After the cocoa pods are cut open, the pulp is left to ferment, during which it liquefies and drains away to expose the beans that are then dried under the sun. The dried beans are sold and eventually exported.

"The money allows me to school my children, pay for their medical care and undertake projects, such as building a new house," Kakule said. He is particularly proud of his daughter, who has just received her teaching degree. Like much of the other natural resources and crops in DR Congo, one of the least developed nations on the planet, cocoa is not processed inside the country.

In 2015, Kakule sold 1,200 kilos of cocoa beans at a price above \$2.00 per kilo. But world cocoa prices have fallen this year, and farmers are now selling their beans for between \$1.60 and \$2.00 per kilo depending on the quality. That Kakule can today set his sights on buying a car to transport his crop is something of a dream come true, and due to a chance encounter with the ESCO Kivu company. In 1998 the firm, which had long been present in Beni, decided to exper-



KHARTOUM: World Health Organization (WHO) representative in Sudan Naeema Al-Gasseer gives an interview on Dec 5, 2016. — AFP

## CASH CRUNCH CLOSING WHO **CLINICS IN SUDAN WAR ZONES**

**KHARTOUM:** Dozens of health facilities supported by the World Health Organization in strife-torn areas of Sudan risk closure due to a lack of funds, exposing one million people to likely epidemics. Eleven clinics have already been shut in Darfur, Blue Nile and South Kordofan where years of fighting between government troops and black African rebels has forced tens of thousands of people to flee

rebels rose up against President Omar Al-Bashir, accusing his Arab-dominated government of marginalizing the region. Similar fighting has also plagued Blue Nile and South Kordofan, with tens of thousands of people killed or displaced in these three areas in more than a decade.

#### 'Forgotten emergency'

sector has Funding for Sudan's health



MBAU, Uganda: This photo taken on Nov 15, 2016 at his farm shows Antoine Kakule Kihumuledi (right), a cocoa farmer, opening cocoa pods to collect cocoa beans. — AFP



This photo taken on Nov 15, 2016 shows a worker sorting cocoa beans at the ESCO Kivu cocoa processing plant in Beni.

iment with cocoa cultivation.

The original idea was to find a replacement to two crops which had traditionally been grown in the region for export: guinine bark and coffee. Demand for the bark used to make the antimalarial drug quinine was dropping while coffee output was hit by a fungus outbreak. The experiment was a success: the soil in the Beni region was suitable for cocoa trees and the dry season wasn't too long.

Without any local demand for cocoa beans, the company "created the market" by providing farmers with a guarantee their crop would be purchased, said Matumo. ESCO does not farm itself. Instead it provides independent farmers with technical support, including the help of agronomists, and then buys their cocoa beans to sell to Europe and the United States.

#### **Economic Revival**

ESCO employs around 200 people and works in partnership with some 29,000 growers. One executive at its factory, who asked not to be named, said he made around \$700 a month. Its product is certified UTZ, a label guaranteeing a mode of production that is sustainable and mindful of the well-being of the local population and the preservation of the natural environment. Today ESCO has a handful of small competitors following in its footsteps.

For Cleophas Paluku Kahongya, president of the Business Federation of Congo (FEC) in Beni, "cocoa has contributed greatly to the revival of the local economy". But another major problem is tax evasion. In 2015, about 9,000 tonnes out of an estimated total of 20,000 tonnes were exported secretly to Uganda to avoid Congolese taxes, Paluku said. — AFP

## HENRY HEIMLICH, INVENTOR OF LIFE-SAVING MOVE, DIES AT 96

**WASHINGTON:** Henry Heimlich, the doctor who gave his name to a famous technique that saved the lives of countless choking victims, has died aged 96, news media reported Saturday. Heimlich, a thoracic surgeon, died at a nursing home in Cincinnati, Ohio following a heart attack. The "Heimlich maneuver", which he invented in 1974 after seeing people choke - and some die - in restaurants, is thought to have saved tens of thousands of lives.

To perform it, a person stands behind the choking victim and applies pressure to the lower diaphragm with his or her hands. Compressing the air in the lungs in this fashion can force the foreign object out of the trachea. The many people whose lives have thus been saved include former president Ronald Reagan and the actresses Marlene Dietrich and Elizabeth Taylor.

Heimlich himself had employed the maneuver a few months ago to save the life of a fellow retiree at his nursing home, an 87-yearold woman. But he was also the center of controversy more than once. Heimlich had advocated the use of the maneuver for other purposes - to save drowning victims or to help asthma sufferers - that never gained a following. And in his later years, he had advocated exposing AIDS victims to malaria, a treatable disease, to boost their resistance.

Heimlich also was credited with inventing a valve that bears his name and is used to prevent air from filling the chest cavity in trauma cases. Heimlich and Jane Murray, daughter of dance school methods, were married from 1951 magnate Arthur Murray and a prountil her death in 2012. They had ponent of alternative medical four children

> HEIMLICH'S MANEUVERS

CINCINNATI: In this Feb 5, 2014 file photo, Dr Henry Heimlich holds his memoir prior to being interviewed at his home. — AP

their homes.

As an acute cash crunch worsens and with the world's eyes focused on other conflicts such as Syria, another 49 facilities in these regions are also at risk, the WHO head in Sudan, Naeema al-Gasseer, told AFP. "We don't have enough funds to continue supporting clinics in remote areas that provide people with health services," Gasseer said. "About 11 clinics have already been closed and another 49 are facing closure. "We are talking about a million people who can be affected."

The closures could impact immunization services, while some 323,000 women of child-bearing age and children under five will lack access to health care, she said. "A heightened risk of epidemics is likely... with people having to travel long distances to access available health care services," Gasseer said. WHO, a United Nations agency, needs about \$7 million to operate these clinics over the next year, but is having trouble sourcing the funds.

More than half of these facilities are in Darfur, a vast region the size of France where heavy fighting erupted in 2003. Violence broke out when ethnic minority

fallen in the past two or three years. The cash crunch faced by WHO and other NGOs is so severe that many clinics have no money even to buy medicines or to pay staff wages. "Sudan is like a forgotten emergency," said Adil al-Mahi from Save the Children Sweden, which operates health facilities for children in the conflict zones. "We don't have funds... to maintain the equipment or for food for malnourished children."

Save the Children Sweden is phasing out health and nutrition services in 20 centers in South Kordofan, affecting about 200,000 people who it has supported. UN officials insist Sudan still remains a priority for global donors. The United Nations had launched a global appeal to raise raising \$952 million to fund humanitarian needs in Sudan in 2016. About 55 percent of that has been raised, which UN officials say is significant considering that donors had to meet other massive aid needs in Syria, Irag, Yemen and Afghanistan. "International donors have stayed the course over the last five years," said Samantha Newport, spokeswoman for the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, or OCHA. — AFP

## FARMING WITHOUT SOIL IN LAND WITHOUT WATER

**CAIRO:** Growing lettuce in the desert is not most people's idea of how to make a success of farming, but Amr Bassiouny believes he is on to something. The 30year-old chief executive of Egyptian Hydrofarms says he is growing salad greens at his farm on the outskirts of Cairo using 90 percent less water than traditional methods, and at the same time obtaining better yields. "This is important in Egypt because we have scarce water resources, so you're able to grow large quantities with much less use of resources," he told Reuters Television.

Hydroponics is farming in water instead of soil. Bassiouny places his plants in pipes through which water and nutrients are pumped. Egypt's population of more than 90 million is growing, and agricultural land is shrinking due to illegal construction on the fertile banks of the Nile and its delta, the country's breadbasket. Unlicensed construction picked up pace after the 2011 uprising, with the government estimating that 90,000 acres (36,400 hectares) of farmland were lost in the first three years alone.

"We will be forced to move our farming to the desert, and when we move to the desert, we will either use up all the available water, so in 40 or 50 years we won't have any more water and we will

not be able to farm. "Or, we can start looking for ways of growing larger quantities by using the least amount of our resources as possible," Bassiouny said. Some say hydroponics was used as far back as the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. That theory is unproven, but hydroponics adherents believe the technology has stood the test of time.

Though costlier, hydroponics is attractive for present-day Egypt, much of which is arid and unsuitable for traditional farming. Bassiouny hopes to start exporting to the Middle East as water shortages get worse and traditional farming becomes more difficult. "Even today, the water in desert wells is becoming too salty and unsuitable for farming. So we need to find alternative methods of farming, especially since we won't just be feeding ourselves, but we will also be exporting to other countries."

Chief Commercial Officer Adel Shentenawy, 32, said he had launched a social media campaign to explain the benefits of hydroponics. "Hydroponics isn't a new idea, it's been around since the time of the Pharaohs ... All we did was take this idea and added technology, efficiency and productivity." — Reuters



LOS ANGELES: In this Sept 9, 2015 file photo, Planned Parenthood supporters rally for women's access to reproductive healthcare on "National Pink Out Day" at Los Angeles City Hall. — AP

## TRUMP COULD CUT FUNDS **TO PLANNED PARENTHOOD**

**WASHINGTON:** One of President-elect Donald Trump's first, and defining, acts next year could come on Republican legislation to cut off taxpayer money from Planned Parenthood. Trump sent mixed signals during the campaign about the 100-year-old organization, which provides birth control, abortions and various women's health services. He said "millions of women are helped by Planned Parenthood," but he also endorsed efforts to defund it. Trump once described himself as "very pro-choice". Now he's in the anti-abortion camp.

Still, the Republican has been steadfast in calling for repeal of President Barack Obama's healthcare law, and the GOP-led Congress is eager to comply. One of the first pieces of legislation will be a repeal measure that's paired with cutting off money for Planned Parenthood. While the GOP may delay the impact of scuttling the law for almost four years, denying Planned Parenthood roughly \$400 million in Medicaid funds would take effect immediately. "We've already shown what we believe with respect to funding of Planned Parenthood," House Speaker Paul Ryan, told reporters last month. "Our position has not changed."

Legislation to both repeal the law and cut Planned Parenthood funds for services to low-income women moved through Congress along party lines last year. Obama vetoed it; Trump's win removes any obstacle. Cutting off Planned Parenthood from taxpayer money is a long-sought dream of social conservatives, but it's a loser in the minds of some GOP strategists. Planned Parenthood is loathed by anti-abortion activists who are the backbone of the GOP coalition. Polls, however, show that the group is favorably viewed by a sizable majority of Americans - 59 percent in a Gallup survey last year, including more than one-third of Republicans.

"Defunding Planned Parenthood as one of their first acts in the New Year would be devastating for millions of families and a huge mistake by Republicans," said incoming Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer. Democrats pledge to defend the group, and they point to the issue of birth control and women's health as helping them win Senate races in New Hampshire and Nevada this year. They argue that Trump would be leading off with a political loser. But if he were to have second thoughts and if the Planned Parenthood provision were to be dropped from the health law repeal, then social conservatives probably would erupt.

"They may well be able to succeed, but the women of America are going to know what that means," said Rep Diana DeGette, citing reduced access to services Planned Parenthood clinics provide. "And we're going to call Republicans on the carpet for that." At least one Republican senator, Susan Collins of Maine, may oppose the effort. Collins has defended Planned Parenthood, saying it "provides important family planning, cancer screening, and basic preventive health care services to millions of women across the country." She voted against the health overhaul repeal last year as a result.

#### **Anti-abortion conservatives**

Continued opposition from Collins, which appears likely, would put the repeal measure on a knife's edge in the Senate, where Republicans will have a 52-48 majority next year. Senate GOP leaders could afford to lose just one other Republican. Anti-abortion conservatives have long tried to cut Planned Parenthood funds, arguing that reimbursements for non-abortion services such as gynecological exams help subsidize abortions. — AP

## Uganda parents seek genital SURGERY FOR 'INTERSEX' BABIES

**KAMPALA:** After their baby was born in a private clinic near the Ugandan capital, parents Justine Nakato and Stephen Mbaziira Dembe were frustrated their nurses and doctors would not show them their baby or tell them its gender. They kept asking the nurse to tell them what was going on. She said the baby was doing well and they would tell them the sex soon. When the mother was discharged, the hospital staff handed over the baby wrapped up in blankets and warned them not to expose the infant's skin to the cold until they got home. There the couple discovered their baby had both a vagina and a penis.

HEALTH & SCIENCE

"At first we were shocked, we went to many physicians to try to find out what we should do," Dembe told the Thomson Reuters Foundation at his home in Nsambya, a suburb of Kampala. "He started passing urine through the penis. Then we decided to give him male names, Timothy Ziwa." Timothy is now 10 months old and his parents are trying to raise funds to carry out genital reshaping surgery, a controversial process that involves procedures intended to make genitalia more like those of either typical males or females.

They are not alone. Local radio stations in Uganda buzz with appeals seeking donors to help fund genital reshaping surgery abroad. One, played regularly on Metro FM, tells a story of a poor child born with ambiguous genitalia and pleads for donations. But an intersex rights group says operations carried out in Uganda are unnecessary and sometimes botched, and advises parents to wait until after children have reached puberty before making any decisions on surgery, whether at home or overseas.

Tamale Ssali, a consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist in Kampala who has examined Timothy, said the child's parents would need around \$50,000 to pay for the surgery in Britain as Uganda lacks the facilities safely undertake such complex surgeries. "The baby was born with a condition called ambiguous genitalia. There is a small vagina but no possible uterus and a well-developed penis but no scrotum," Ssali told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

According to an August 2015 report by the

Support Initiative for People with Congenital Disorders (SIPD), a Ugandan intersex rights organization, at least three children are born with an intersex or "difference of sexual development" condition every week in Mulago National Referral Hospital, the biggest hospital in Uganda. Giving birth to an intersex child can come as a shock to parents, and many opt for genital reshaping surgery, according to Ssali.

In its survey of 25 districts in Uganda, the first of its kind, SIPD recorded 48 cases of such surgeries being performed. Julius Kagwa, executive director of SIPD, whose book "From Juliet to Julius" describes changing gender as an adult, said Uganda does not have a laboratory performing chromosomal tests for children to help determine sex, and genital reshaping surgeries are often flawed. "A few surgeries have been attempted to alter ambiguous genitalia in infancy but most of these have been unsuccessful and the intersex children have ended up developing physical characteristics of the opposite sex at puberty," he said.

#### **Biological Milestones**

Most intersex children in Uganda are assigned female at birth and raised to identify as women, according to the SIPD report. But for many intersex women, female biological milestones, such as menstruation and breast development do not necessarily follow. Instead, some are faced with changes associated with male puberty, such as beard growth, body hair and voice deepening.

These developments can bring ridicule and stigma, which can lead to suicide attempts and higher rates of school drop-out, according to SIPD. "SIPD advocates for the 'best guess' nonsurgical approach where an intersex child should be raised in the best-suited gender, without irreversible surgical intervention, until they can be active participants in the decision," said Kagwe.

Sam Lyomoki, a doctor and member of the Ugandan parliament, said parliament issued guidelines in 2015 to the Ministry of Health advising against surgical intervention for intersex infants. "The guidelines stress counselling for the parents, and there are counsellors trained to do that. Surgery can only be done when the child is old enough and has shown more features of either sex or the child can decide for him/herself," he told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

Intersex people who have undergone early genital reshaping surgeries have complained of problems like loss of sexual sensation. Betty, who uses a pseudonym to protect her identity, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation from her home in Kampala that she underwent genital reshaping surgery when she was a baby. She went on to have a child, but has no clitoral sensation. "I think what the doctors and my parents agreed to cut out was just an elongated clitoris but not a penis," she said.

Malta was the first country to prohibit involuntary or coerced modifications to sex characteristics. The Council of Europe has also recognized a right for intersex persons to not undergo sex reassignment treatment against their will. Superstition and shame is another factor facing intersex children in Uganda. Intersex children are often hidden as their families consult traditional healers for answers. SIPD reported cases in which mothers conspired with witchdoctors to have their intersex children killed in cleansing rituals because they were believed to be cursed. Mothers also abandoned their intersex children in toilets or forests, and others subjected them to harmful mutilations to reshape their genitalia, according to the report.

Joseph Musisi, a traditional healer based in the Makindye suburb of Kampala, said the mutilation of intersex children is an outdated practice and said his peers practice therapies within the confines of the law. "Not fulfilling family obligations and angering one's ancestors could be a reason one gets an intersex child. This can be rectified if a traditional healer speaks to the ancestral spirits, identifies their demands, and has them fulfilled," he said. Intersex people have also challenged laws in Uganda, including the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, which has a provision that restricts people above 21 years of age from changing their sex details in the National Births Register. — Reuters



## **SENATOR CALLS TO RECALL EXPLODING E-CIGARETTES**

**NEW YORK:** US Sen Charles Schumer is increasing the heat on the federal government to consider recalling e-cigarette batteries and devices that explode and catch fire, injuring users. Schumer, a New York Democrat, has called e-cigarettes "ticking time bombs" and said they continue to cause injuries including severe burns. Ecigarette user Katrina Williams, a New York freight manager, said she wanted a safer alternative to smoking regular tobacco cigarettes and thought e-cigarettes were the answer - until one exploded in her pocket in April as she drove home from a autv sal



### AMID SPREADING AVIAN FLU

JAPAN CULLING 210,000 BIRDS

TOKYO: Japan has begun slaughtering ucts in areas close to the affected about 210,000 farm birds in northern Hokkaido to contain another outbreak of a highly contagious strain of avian flu, an official said yesterday. It is the fifth mass cull this winter in Japan with hundreds of officials working to prevent the spread of the virulent H5 strain, which has been detected at several farms across the country. Just weeks earlier, outbreaks led to a cull of 550,000 chickens in the central city of Niigata and 23,000 ducks in the Aomori prefecture south of Hokkaido.

Authorities have also banned the transport of poultry and poultry prod-

farms, while sterilizing main roads leading to them.

But progress has been slow this time with just 32,310 chickens at the farm in Shimzu town in northern Hokkaido culled by Saturday evening, local officials said in a statement. "We continue to cull the chickens today but the work is difficult as the air temperature falls to some -20 degree Celsius at night" in addition to fallen snow that is another obstacle, an official told AFP. Before the current outbreaks, Japan's last confirmed case of avian flu at a farm was in Jan 2015. — AFP

KELANIYA, Sri Lanka: A Sri Lankan elephant (Elephas maximus maximus) walks through the grounds of the Kelaniya Buddhist Temple yesterday. The Sri Lankan elephant is listed as endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as the population has declined by at least 50 percent over the last three generations, with the species threatened by habitat loss, degradation and fragmentation. — AFP

"It was like a firecracker," she said, as it seared third-degree burns in her leg, blasted through her charred pants and stuck in the dashboard. As the use of e-cigarettes has increased over the past year, similar painful accidents have been recorded with greater frequency, with faulty lithium-ion batteries seen as the likely culprits. The same types of batteries are used safely in many consumer electronics, but they've been behind fires in hover boards and smartphones.

Schumer said he wants the US Consumer Product Safety Commission and the US Food and Drug Administration to figure out why so many devices, many from China, are exploding. He said the recent injuries are proof federal action is needed.

CHICAGO: In this April 23, 2014 file photo, e-cigarettes are on display at the Vape store. — AP

Schumer, who planned to hold a press conference yesterday to address the issue, cited a recent AP story saying the FDA identified about 66 explosions in 2015 and early 2016 after recording 92 explosions from 2009 to September 2015.

The AP story said the numbers kept by the FDA may be an undercount. Just one hospital, the UW Medicine Regional Burn Center at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, said it has seen more than 20 patients with e-cigarette burns since it started tracking them informally in Oct 2015. — AP



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## Kuwait 🗠 Times 🌆

Greetings

### MILLENNIUM HOTEL APPOINTS MOHAMMED **RAMADAN AS DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

illennium Hotel and Convention Center Kuwait are pleased to announce the newly appointed Director of Finance, Mohammed Ramadan. He was selected based on his very impressive 24- years of existence in the hotel industry: characterized by several laurels of prestige reputations and achievements at different brands of Intercontinental Hotel Groups in Sri Lanka and Middle East.

The Area General Manager of Millennium and Copthorne Hotels Kuwait - Dani Saleh said: "We are proud to welcome Mohammed Ramadan to join our outstanding team members which actually stands behind the organization's ideals, vision and mission. As we continue to strive for the best, we are looking forward to a fruitful association that may bind the foundation and sets the parameters for the team's success. With his full knowledge and expertise when it comes to financial management through developing the finest accounting practices and control procedures, I know we can make things happen."

Furthermore, Millennium Hotel Kuwait, bids farewell to Ahmed Mokhtar, Director of Finance, as he currently moved to a new venture at



#### **Mohammed Ramadan**

Millennium Plaza Doha, Qatar with the same title. An exemplary team member that worked extensively for 10 years with succession for Millennium and Copthorne Hotels.

Dani Saleh's words of appreciation: "On behalf of the team and management, we would like to express our sincerest thanks to Ahmed Mokhtar. It is indeed a pleasure to work with a person who's confident, trusting, knowing every day that he'll deliver good quality of work, dedication, loyalty and

great performance. With his history of hard work in the budget, revenue, team management and financial reporting; we can only extend to him our warmth wishes and best of luck with his new unfolding journey."

WHAT'S ON

Millennium Hotel and Convention Centre is one of the finest emerging 5star quality business hotels in the country that is strategically located on the 4th ring road in the heart of Al-Salmiya area, close to the main shopping malls, dining and entertainment spots around the block. It is also home to business conferences and trade exhibitions with varying capacities.

The hotel is designed for business and leisure travelers, offering 295 rooms and suites equipped with state-of-the-art technology, complimentary high speed Wi-Fi and luxury amenities. Millennium Hotel facilities also include a health club - with modern Techno-gym brand machines, an outdoor swimming pool, and sauna/steam rooms. The hotel's integrated business center offers secretarial services and comprehensive office facilities. With 3 different cuisines and a pool bar, guests are spoiled for choice when it comes to dining in the hotel's world-class restaurants.

#### SUMA ZAATAR ENGAGED TO MARRY SAMER ABU DAGAR



Mr and Mrs Ahmed Mohsen Zaatar are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Suma Zaatar to Samer Abu Dagar. Their beautiful engagement ceremony took place on Friday December 16, 2016 at Movenpick Al-Bidaa.





## AMP HOSTS FINANCIAL PLANNING LECTURE

MP Kuwait conducted a lecture on Financial Planning And Investment on recently at Better Book Store, Salmiya. The lecture was delivered by Salim Desai, CFO at Al-Razzi Holding and mentor to other organizations. He is a

respected and senior finance professional, active in social sphere determined to mentor students in selecting the right career to excel in the professional world. The lecture was finely crafted and aimed to build the impor-

tance and understanding of financial planning in one's life. Investing options in Equity, Real Estate, Mutual Funds, etc were discussed taking into consideration Investment type, investment period and the risk factors. Investments based on Islamic Sharia

were also presented to the audience and queries related to it were answered. The lecture and interactive session were well appreciated by the audience and requested AMP committee for more such lectures.





## KUWAIT NATIONAL ENGLISH SCHOOL EARLY YEARS CHILDREN PLANT COMMUNITY GARDEN

he Early Years children recently visited one of our local parks for a day of outdoor play, learning and community activism. With the sponsorship of the

Ministry of Public Affairs of Agriculture and Fish Resources and the management of Rawda Park, the children planted flowers throughout the park. This participation, in

creating a community garden was much appreciated and helped teach the value of civic participation and appreciation for our environment.

Kuwait National English School is dedicated to improving our environment and teaching children the value of citizenship. We are truly grateful for the support provided in

order for the young children to take ownership of their environment. Kuwait public parks are an essential and rich treasure for everyone in our society to enjoy.



hristmas Carol service of St Thomas Evangelical Church of India (STECI) Kuwait Parish will be held on Thursday, December 22, 2016 at 7:30 pm at Church and Parish Hall of NECK. Apart from Carol singing by the parish choir, Christmas Pageant of Sunday school children will also be conducted. The Carol service will be presided by the President Vicar Rev Saji Abraham and the Christmas message will be delivered by Rev Bobby Mathew, Vicar of St Thomas Marthoma Church Kuwait.





### Kuwait 🗠 Times 🌆

# WHAT'S ON

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2016





**General classroom photo** 

## THE CENTER OF CONTINUING EDUCATION AT AUK INTRODUCES FIRST EXECUTIVE MINI MBA PROGRAM

he Center of Continuing Education (CCE) at the American University of Kuwait (AUK) announced the graduation of its first group of professionals from the Mini MBA Program. The program was launched in November 2016 in partnership with BEYOND Consulting and Training, (a company based in Lebanon that offers professional development services in the MENA region. The objective of the program was to train professionals on a wide spectrum of competencies that grant them competitive advantages within the Business market.

The Mini-MBA Program is designed to provide professionals with the essential theories, practices and techniques needed to succeed in their professional roles. Over a 5-day course, the program provides an experiential overview of five key areas in business operations; strategic planning, finance functions, marketing strategies; leadership roles and human capital.

Buthaina Al-Khubaizi, Director of CCE, explained that the CCE/BEYOND Executive Mini MBA Program does not only provide a comprehensive understanding of each of the five key business competencies, but also identifies their interdependencies. Khubaizi explained that the idea of offering a Mini MBA Program was inspired by the success of the Emerging Leaders certificate program, which CCE has been running for three successful years. "Through both programs, CCE tries to offer opportunities for business managers and emerging leaders to reflect and recalibrate, allowing them to disrupt old patterns and discover new approaches to management and leadership," she said.

The CCE Executive Mini MBA Program is designed for professionals who wish to gain the business skills offered in traditional MBA programs without the time and costs incurred by pursuing an MBA degree. The program employs techniques and methodologies that are typically covered in MBA programs, while utilizing David Kolb Experiential Cycle learning model (heavy emphasis on practice, simulations, role-plays, case studies and videotaping exercises drawn from the real work environment, and job realities and situations.) The Mini MBA Program was conducted by instructors who are experts on the different business domains including, organizational strategic planning, leadership styles and behaviors, accounting and finance, marketing strategies, and human resources management.

Upon their completion of the Mini MBA Program, the participants received professional certificates from CCE at a graduation ceremony held on the center's premises in November. Following the ceremony, Khubaizi announced the launch of CCE's "Emerging Leaders" Certificate Program 2017, which is expected to start mid-February 2017. The "Emerging Leaders" program was developed in early 2014 to offer an introductory model on leadership and cover subjects such as Communication in the Workplace, Building and Leading High Performance Teams, Conflict Resolution, Exceptional Customer Care, Creative Problem Solving, Motivational Leadership, Achieving Successful Results, Human Intelligences and Wellbeing and Carving the Leader Within.



**Course Instructor Joseph Maalouf** 



## CANADIANS IN KUWAIT CELEBRATE THANKSGIVING

anadians in Kuwait (CiK) a social networking organization for Canadian expat community in Kuwait celebrated Thanksgiving for its members and guests with a grand event with pomp and color at Holiday Inn Hotel - Salmiya. Ishtiaq Malik - CiK President welcomed dignitaries, members and guests on behalf of CiK.

He thanked Ambassador of Canada - Martine Moreau, US Ambassador Lawrence Silverman and his wife Victoria. Ambassador of Sri Lanka - KandeepanBala, Catherine Deri, Lieutenant-Colonel and Commanding Officer for joining CiK Thanksgiving.

Ambassador of Canada to Kuwait Martine Moreau addressed the audience by greetings Canadian community in Kuwait with season's greetings and appreciated CiK for holding this event. Meanwhile, US Ambassador Lawrence Silverman addressed the gathering and wished season's greetings. Catherine Deri, Lieutenant-Colonel and Commanding Officer in her speech also wished season's greetings.

CiK shares Canadian culture with other expats communities in Kuwait, utilizing the talent and efforts of its members. CiK's top agenda is to promote Canada's national traditions and events in Kuwait. The Past one year was very active, CiK had conducted several successful events for its members to enjoy their time in Kuwait. The membership to CiK website is proven to be very informative with weekly news updates and is beneficial to its members.





## **IISM OBSERVES ENGLISH WEEK**



ndia International School, Mangaf observed English week with a week-long innovative celebrations. India's first Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore and his contribution to the literary arena was the theme.

The activities commenced with an Inter House Quiz Competition on Tagore's life. Special assemblies were organized by all the sections. The three facets of the English language - prose, poetry, and drama - were authentically presented, followed by choral recitation of 'Where the mind is without fear' and a reverberating and meaningful presentation of the Indian National Anthem.

<sup>'</sup>Give me the Strength', a poem in praise was musically composed and sung. 'Where the Mind is Without Fear' was presented as a ballet and 'Kabuliwala' was enacted in the form of a skit. Children of class I and II performed a song and zealous English games were played in the assembly to enhance the beauty of the language.

The celebration was concluded with an Inter House Debate Competition by class X on 'Demonetization of 500 and 1000 Indian Rupee Notes'. English week not only provided a platform for the students to showcase their talent but also enhanced their knowledge bank and boosted their self-confidence. The effort taken by the English Department was well appreciated by the School Director, Principal, Senior Vice Principal and the Vice Principals.



## Kuwait 🗠 Times 🌆

00:50 River Monsters 01:45 Bondi Vet 02:40 Dr. Jeff: Rocky Mountain Vet 03:35 Tanked 04:25 Into The Pride 05:15 Gator Boys 06:02 River Monsters 06:49 Dr. Jeff: Rocky Mountain Vet 07:36 Swamp Brothers 08:00 Swamp Brothers 08:25 Too Cute! Pint-Sized Dr. Jeff: Rocky Mountain Vet 09:15 10:10 Biggest And Baddest 11:05 Tanked 12:00 Too Cute! Pint-Sized 12:55 Bondi Vet 13:50 Dr. Jeff: Rocky Mountain Vet 14:45 Gator Boys 15:40 Biggest And Baddest 16:35 Tanked Into The Pride 17:30 18:25 River Monsters 19:20 Wildest Islands Of Indonesia 20:15 Tanked 21:10 Rogue Nature With Dave Salmoni 22:05 Biggest And Baddest 23:00 Wildest Islands Of Indonesia



23:55 Gator Boys

00:00 Fred Dinenage: Murder Casebook 01:00 The Haunting Of.. 02:00 My Haunted House 03:00 Robbie Coltrane's Critical Evidence 04:00 Fred Dinenage: Murder Casebook 05:00 The Haunting Of... 06:00 My Haunted House 07:00 Fred Dinenage: Murder Casebook 08:00 Nightmare In Suburbia 09:00 Homicide Hunter 10:00 It Takes A Killer 10:30 It Takes A Killer 11:00 Evil Up Close 15:00 The First 48 16:00 Fred Dinenage: Murder Casebook 17:00 Crimes That Shook Britain 18:00 Deadly Wives 19:00 Nightmare In Suburbia 20:00 Homicide Hunter 21:00 It Takes A Killer 21:30 It Takes A Killer 22:00 The First 48



00:05 Destroyed In Seconds 00:30 What Could Possibly Go Wrong? 01:20 What Could Possibly Go Wrong? 02:10 Dirty Jobs 03:00 World's Toughest Jobs 03:50 Ultimate Survival 04:40 Ultimate Survival 05:30 Ultimate Survival 06:20 How It's Made 06:40 How It's Made 07:00 Kenny The Shark 07:25 Awesome Adventures 07:50 Bad Dog 08:40 How It's Made 09:05 How It's Made 09:30 What Could Possibly Go 12:15 Street Outlaws 13:05 How It's Made: Dream Cars 13:30 Storage Hunters UK 13:55 The Liquidator 14:20 Edge Of Alaska 15:10 Diamond River Hunters 16:00 Deadliest Catch 16:50 Fat N' Furious: Rolling Thunder 17:40 Wheeler Dealers 18:30 How Do They Do It? 19:20 Diamond River Hunters 20:10 Storage Hunters UK 20:35 The Liquidator 21:00 Gold Rush 21:50 Deadliest Catch 22:40 Catching Monsters 23:30 Fat N' Furious: Rolling Thunde



00:00 In Search Of Aliens 01:00 Monster Quest 02:00 In Search Of Aliens 03:00 Your Bleeped Up Brain 03:50 The Universe: Ancient Mysteries Solved 04:40 In Search Of Aliens 05:30 In Search Of Aliens 06:20 America's Book Of Secrets 07:10 The Universe 08:00 Monster Quest 09:00 In Search Of Aliens 10:00 Your Bleeped Up Brain 11:00 The Universe: Ancient Mysteries Solved 12:00 In Search Of Aliens 13:00 In Search Of Aliens 14:00 Monster Quest 15:00 In Search Of Aliens 16:00 Your Bleeped Up Brain 17:00 The Universe: Ancient Mysteries Solved 18:00 In Search Of Aliens 19:00 Ancient Aliens 20:00 America's Book Of Secrets 21:00 Ancient Discoveries 22:00 Patton 360 23:00 Monster Quest



Hansen 01:30 Deadly Women 02:20 Suspicion 03:10 Murder Among Friends 04:00 Killer Instinct With Chris Hansen 04:48 I Almost Got Away With It 05:36 Deadline: Crime With Tamron 06:24 Beauty Queen Murders 07:12 Blood Relatives 08:00 I'd Kill For You 08:50 I Almost Got Away With It 09:40 Deadline: Crime With Tamron

Hall 10:30 Beauty Queen Murders 11:20 Blood Relatives 12:10 Disappeared 13:00 I'd Kill For You 13:50 I Almost Got Away With It 14:40 Deadline: Crime With Tamron Hall 15:30 Beauty Queen Murders 16:20 Blood Relatives 17:10 Swamp Murders 18:00 I'd Kill For You I Almost Got Away With It 18:50 Deadline: Crime With Tamron 19:40 Hall 20:30 Beauty Queen Murders



00:10 Hank Zipzer 00:35 Binny And The Ghost 01:00 Violetta 01:45 The Hive 01:50 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 02:15 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 02:40 Hank Zipzer 03:05 Binny And The Ghost 03:30 Violetta 04:15 The Hive 04:20 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch

06:50 Mouk

And Cat Noir

07:50

07:00 Dog With A Blog 07:25 Dog With A Blog

08:20 Elena Of Avalor

**Mickey Christmas** 

10:30 Go Figure

12:10 Austin & Ally

Austin & Ally

Shake It Up

15:30 Good Luck Charlie

15:55 Good Luck Charlie

16:20 Girl Meets World

16:45 Girl Meets World

17:10 Elena Of Avalor

18:00 The Next Step

18:55 Star Darlings

19:00 A.N.T. Farm

17:35 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug

18:25 Descendants Wicked World 18:30 Liv And Maddie

Descendants Wicked World

19:25 Disney Mickey Mouse

Elena Of Avalor

Austin & Ally

14:40 Dog With A Blog 15:05 Duck The Halls: A Very

13:00 Liv And Maddie

13:25 Liv And Maddie

14:15 Shake It Up

Mickey Christmas

And Cat Noir

19:30

19:55

20:30

21:20 Jessie

Teenage Witch

09:15 Jessie

09:40 Jessie

10:05 Jessie

12:35

13:50

Tsum Tsum Shorts

08:45 Star Darlings 08:50 Duck The Halls: A Very

07:55 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug





20:00 Backstage 20:25 Tsum Tsum Shorts 20:55 Best Friends Whenever 22:35 H2O: Just Add Water 23:00 Binny And The Ghost 23:25 Sabrina Secrets Of A 23:50 Sabrina Secrets Of A

Teenage Witch DISNEP 00:00 Doc McStuffins 00:30 Minnie's Bow-Toons 00:35 Zou 00:50 Loopdidoo 01:05 Art Attack 01:30 Henry Hugglemonster 01:45 Calimero

02:00 Zou 02:15 Loopdidoo 02:30 Art Attack

....GIBSON ....FORD ...SCHWARZENEGGER







## ALL TH WILDERNES

FEATURING MUSIC BY SONIC YOUTH, ELLIOTT SMITH AND JÓNSI AND ALEX OF SIGUR RÓS

SZERI MENA HULS KUR SIPPERERY HITE IAMARYI MUSIF JUNUTUN SZWART / AMBEA SY All Te Wiltensz Kotsart Acher Yremamaesin sabili ournan wytym res w taw Musie Iame Portant web al goden wiszt adam rewpet bera testakto soba wytym Tunss Luts Aszekubet Wilt Portivit gena istreten matterine. SXSW

#### ALL THE WILDERNESS ON OSN MOVIES HD

22:00 PJ Masks 22:30 PJ Masks 23:00 The Adventures Of The **Disney Fairies** 



06:00 Supa Strikas 06:25 Supa Strikas 06:50 Counterfeit Cat 07:00 Star vs The Forces Of Evil 07:15 K.C. Undercover 07:40 Atomic Puppet 08:10 Lab Rats 08:35 Danger Mouse 09:00 Lab Rats vs Mighty Med 09:50 Kirby Buckets 10:20 Kirby Buckets 10:45 Gravity Falls 11:10 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything

06:00 Swamp People 06:50 Ax Men 07:40 Ice Road Truckers 08:30 Storage Wars Texas 08:55 Leepu And Pitbull 09:45 Lost In Transmission 10:35 Shipping Wars 11:25 Hoard Hunters 12:15 Ice Road Truckers 13:05 Ice Road Truckers 13:55 Pawn Stars 14:20 Pawn Stars 14:45 Pawn Stars Australia 15:10 Pawn Stars Australia 15:35 Pawn Stars 16:00 American Pickers 16:50 Storage Wars: Best Of 17:40 Swamp People 18:30 Hoard Hunters 19:20 American Pickers 20:10 Pawn Stars 20:35 Pawn Stars Best Of 21:00 Sean Bean On Waterloo 21:50 Aussie Pickers





20:10 Make You Laugh Out Loud 21:00 Big Baboon House 21:50 Extreme Animal Babies 22:40 World's Creepiest Killers 23:30 Life On The Barrier Reef



00:10 Continent 7: Antarctica 01:00 Mars 02:00 Startalk 02:55 Do Or Die 03:20 Do Or Die 03:50 Continent 7: Antarctica 04:45 Big, Bigger, Biggest 05:40 Megacities 06:35 Startalk 07:30 Mars 08:25 Nazi Megastructures 09:20 Big, Bigger, Biggest 10:15 The Border 11:10 Big Fix Alaska 12:05 Dirty Rotten Survival 13:00 Nazi Megastructures 14:00 Mars 15:00 Startalk 16:00 The Border 17:00 Big Fix Alaska 18:00 Dirty Rotten Survival 19:00 Continent 7: Antarctica 20:00 The Border 20:50 Big Fix Alaska 21:40 Dirty Rotten Survival 22:30 Continent 7: Antarctica

#### O/ MOVIES HD ACTION

00:00 No Way Out 02:00 Snakehead Swamp 04:00 Christmas Twister 06:00 The Expendables 3 08:00 Double Team 10:00 Brick Mansions 12:00 In The Name Of The Kina: The Last Mission 14:00 The Expendables 3 16:00 Double Team 18:00 Brick Mansions 19:45 Fast & Furious 6 22:00 The Purge

#### OM MOVIES HD

COMEDY 00:00 Freaks Of Nature 01:45 How Do You Know 04:00 Dickie Roberts: Former Child Sta 06:00 Angus Thongs And Perfect Snogging 08:00 Win A Date With Tad Hamilton! 10:00 Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star 11:45 How Do You Know 14:00 A Madea Christmas 16:00 Win A Date With Tad Hamilton! 18:00 Superfast 20:00 Ghostbusters II 22:00 National Security

**O/N** MOVIES

12:00 Atlas Shrugged Part 2: The

ON MOVIES HD

03:30 Beds

09:30

Strike

07:00 War Horse

16:30 War Horse 19:00 WarGames

Foxcatcher

14:00 Finding Forrester

21:00 The Last Tycoon

23:15 Farewell My Queen

#### **OM FIRST HD**

FESTIVAL

00:00 The Last Kingdom 01:00 The Catch 03:00 Mistresses 04:00 Stitchers 05:00 Good Morning America -Weekend 06:00 Prison Break 07:00 Drop Dead Diva 08:00 Castle 09:00 Stitchers 10:00 The Catch 11:00 This Is Us 12:00 Shark Tank 13:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show 14:00 Drop Dead Diva 15:00 Live Good Morning America 17:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show 18:00 Castle 19:00 Once Upon A Time 20:00 The Catch 21:00 Bones 22:00 Game Of Silence 23:00 Tyrant

## O/ FIRST HD

COMEDY 00:00 Superstore 00:30 Cougar Town 01:00 Cougar Town 01:30 Veep 02:00 Veep 02:30 It's Always Sunny In Philadelphia 03:00 Last Man Standing 03:30 The Simpsons 04:00 Better With You 04:30 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon 05:30 10 Items Or Less 06:00 The Grinder 06:30 Men At Work 07:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers 08:00 Better With You 08:30 10 Items Or Less 09:00 Last Man Standing 09:30 Wrecked 10:00 Dr. Ken 10:30 Men At We

01:00 Digging For Fire 03:00 Louder Than Words 05:00 All The Wilderness 07:00 Ride Along 2 09:00 The Benefactor 11:00 Ant-Man 13:00 My Old Lady 15:00 The Good Lie 17:00 Ride 18:45 In The Heart Of The Sea 21:00 Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation 23:15 Spectre OM MOVIES HD **KIDS** 01:15 Daddy I'm A Zombie

03:00 Egon And Donci 04:30 Ploddy Police Car On The Case 06:00 Blue Elephant 2 07:45 Dixie And The Zombie Rebellion 09:30 Marco Macaco 11:00 The Adventures Of Don Quixote 12:45 Egon And Donci 14:30 Blackie And Kanuto 16:15 The Heart Of The Oak 18:00 Marco Macaco 20:00 Harriet The Spv 22:00 Blackie And Kanuto 23:45 The Heart Of The Oak





#### THE EXPENDABLES 3 ON OSN MOVIES ACTION HD

03:00 Calimero

03:15 Zou 03:30 Loopdidoo

03:45 Art Attack

04:25 Calimero

04:45 Loopdidoo

Art Attack

05:25 Henry Hugglemonster

Henry Hugglemonster

04:10

05:00

Wrong? 10:20 Mythbusters 11:10 Dynamo: Magician Impossible 14:30 Troy 15:20 Troy 16:10 Kenny The Shark 16:35 Awesome Adventures 17:00 Don't Drive Here 17:50 David Baddiel On The Silk Road 18:40 What Could Possibly Go Wrong? 19:30 How It's Made 19:55 How It's Made Mythbusters 20:20 21:10 Don't Drive Here David Baddiel On The Silk 22:00 Road 22:50 Destroyed In Seconds 23:15 Destroyed In Seconds 23:40 Ultimate Survival



00:20 Wheeler Dealers 01:10 Mega Trains 02:00 Castro: The World's Most Watched Man 02:50 Free Ride 03:40 Fat N' Furious: Rolling Thunder 04:30 The Liquidator 05:00 How It's Made: Dream Cars 05:30 How Do They Do It? 06:00 Deadliest Catch 06:50 Wheeler Dealers 07:40 Fat N' Furious: Rolling Thunder 08:30 Diamond River Hunters 09:20 The Liquidator 09:45 How It's Made: Dream Cars How Do They Do It? 10:10 10:35 Fast N' Loud: Demolition Theatre 11:25 Sacred Steel Bikes

21:20 Blood Relatives 22:10 I Am Homicide 23:00 Six Degrees Of Murder 23:50 Nowhere To Hide



03:10

11:14

23:50

05:35 Calimero 05:50 Zou 06:00 Loopdidoo 00:40 Prototype This 06:15 Art Attack 01:30 Prototype This 06:35 Henry Hugglemonster 06:50 Calimero 02:20 Prototype This Prototype This 07:00 Zou 07:20 Loopdidoo 07:35 Art Attack 04:00 Mythbusters 04:48 Mythbusters 05:36 Weird Or What? Mickey Mouse Clubhouse 08:00 08:30 Sheriff Callie's Wild West 09:00 Goldie & Bear 06:24 Weird Or What? 07:12 Weird Or What? 08:00 How Do They Do It? 09:30 The Lion Guard 08:26 Prototype This 10:00 The Lion Guard 10:30 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse 09:14 Weird Or What? Sofia The First 10:02 Outrageous Acts Of Psych 11:00 11:30 The Lion Guard 12:00 Doc McStuffins 10:26 Outrageous Acts Of Psych 10:50 How Do They Do It? Food Factory 12:30 Little Mermaid 11:38 Mythbusters 13:00 Sofia The First 13:30 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse 12:26 Prototype This 13:14 Weird Or What? 14:00 Jake And The Never Land 14:02 How Do They Do It? Pirates 14:26 Food Factory 14:50 Outrageous Acts Of Psych 14:30 Doc McStuffins 15:00 The Lion Guard 15:14 Outrageous Acts Of Psych 15:30 Sofia The First 16:00 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse 15:38 Mythbusters Doc McStuffins 16:26 Prototype This 16:30 17:14 Weird Or What? 17:00 The Lion Guard 18:02 Outrageous Acts Of Psych 18:26 Outrageous Acts Of Psych 17:30 PJ Masks 18:00 The Adventures Of The 18:50 Prototype This 19:40 Weird Or What? **Disney Fairies** 18:30 Goldie & Bear 20:30 Invent It Rich 19:00 Jake And The Never Land 21:20 How Do They Do It? Pirates 21:45 Food Factory 22:10 Magic Of Science 19:30 Little Mermaid 20:00 PJ Masks 22:35 Magic Of Science 20:30 Sofia The First 23:00 Invent It Rich 21:00 Sofia The First: The Curse Of Human Nature Princess Ivy

11:35 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything 12:00 Counterfeit Cat 12:30 K.C. Undercover 12:55 K.C. Undercover 13:20 Star Wars Freemaker Adventures 13:45 Lab Rats 14:10 Disney Mickey Mouse 14:15 Lab Rats 14:40 Counterfeit Cat 14:50 Star vs The Forces Of Evil 15:05 K.C. Undercover 15:30 Atomic Puppet 15:55 Lab Rats 16:25 Danger Mouse 16:50 Future-Worm! 17:15 Saving The People Who Save People 18:05 Disney Mickey Mouse 18:10 Supa Strikas 18:35 Supa Strikas 19:00 Star Wars Freemaker Adventures 19:25 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything 19:55 K.C. Undercover 20:20 Counterfeit Cat 20:45 Mighty Med 21:10 Pickle And Peanut 21:40 Disney Mickey Mouse



00:20 Pawn Stars Australia 00:45 Pawn Stars Australia 01:10 American Restoration 02:00 Storage Wars 02:25 Storage Wars 02:50 Counting Cars 03:15 Counting Cars 03:40 Shipping Wars 04:05 Shipping Wars 04:30 Pawn Stars Best Of 05:00 Britain's Bloody Crown: War Of The Roses

60 CHOICE 00:10 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh 01.00 Emmerdale 02:00 Coronation Street 02:30 The Chase: Celebrity Specials 03:25 Together 03:55 Gino's Hidden Italy 04:20 Big Star's Little Star 05:15 The Doctor Blake Mysteries 06:15 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh 07:05 The Chase: Celebrity Specials 08:00 Together 08:35 Gino's Hidden Italy 09:00 Big Star's Little Star 10:00 The Doctor Blake Mysteries 11:00 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh 11:50 The Chase: Celebrity Specials 12:45 Emmerdale 13:15 Coronation Street 13:45 Coronation Street 14:15 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh 15:10 Cash Trapped 16:00 Broadchurch 16:55 Autopsy: The Last Hours Of... 17:50 The Doctor Blake Mysteries 18:50 Emmerdale 19:15 Coronation Street 19:45 Coronation Street 20:10 Cash Trapped 21:00 Broadchurch 21:55 Autopsy: The Last Hours Of.. 00:10 Places We Go 00:35 My Restaurant In India 01:00 Food Lover's Guide To The Planet

01:25 A Is For Apple 01:50 The Best Job In The World 02:15 Food School 02:40 Mega Food 03:30 Wineroads 03:55 Places We Go 04:20 Lucky Chow 04:45 Croatia's Finest 05:10 Croatia's Finest 05:35 Miguel's Tropical Kitchen 06:00 Around The World In 80 Dishes 06:50 Food Lover's Guide To The Planet 07:15 A Is For Apple 07:40 The Best Job In The World 08:05 Food School 08:30 Mega Food 09:20 Wineroads 09:45 Places We Go 10:10 Lucky Chow 10:35 Croatia's Finest 11:00 Croatia's Finest Top Chef Top Table: Seoul 11:25 11:50 Around The World In 80 Dishes 12:40 Food Lover's Guide To The Planet 13:05 A Is For Apple 13:35 Lee Chan's World Food Tour 14:00 Food School 14:30 What's For Sale' 14:55 What's For Sale? 15:25 Wineroads

15:50 Lucky Chow

Hollywood Bear Traged 03:45 The Invaders 04:40 Make You Laugh Out Loud 05:35 Mother Croc 06:30 Hollywood Bear Tragedy 07:25 The Invaders 08:20 Make You Laugh Out Loud 09:15 Unlikely Animal Friends Compilations 10:10 Extreme Animal Babies 11:05 Madagascar's Fantastic Creatures 12:00 Life On The Barrier Reef 12:55 Clouded Leopard 13:50 Making Panda 14:45 The Invaders 15:40 Make You Laugh Out Loud 16:35 Big Baboon House Extreme Animal Babies 17:30 18:25 World's Creepiest Killers 19:20 The Invaders

16:20 My Restaurant In India

17:40 Miguel's Tropical Kitchen

18:10 Around The World In 80

20:25 My Restaurant In India

21:40 Miguel's Tropical Kitchen

22:05 Around The World In 80

22:55 Food Lover's Guide To The

23:20 A Is For Apple 23:45 Lee Chan's World Food Tour

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16:45 Grandma's Boy

17:15 Grandma's Boy

19:05 What's For Sale?

19:30 Wineroads

20:00 Lucky Chow

20:50 Grandma's Boy

21:15 Grandma's Boy

Dishes

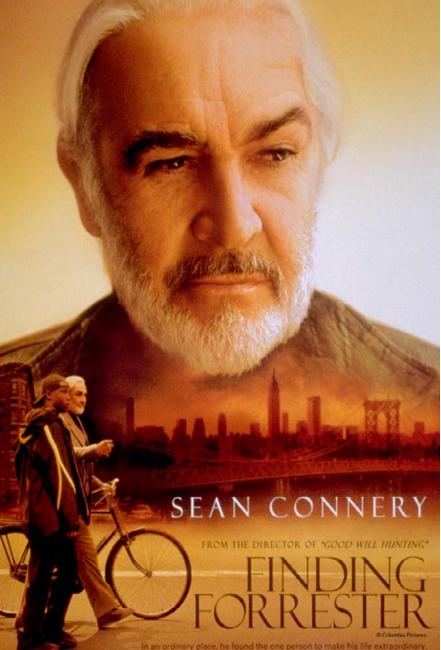
Dishes

Planet

11:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon 12:00 The Grinder 12:30 Better With You 13:00 10 Items Or Less 13:30 Men At Work 14:00 The Simpsons 14:30 Wrecked 15:00 Dr. Ken 15:30 Cougar Town 16:00 Cougar Town 16:30 The Grinder 17:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers 18:00 Last Man Standing 18:30 The Simpsons 19:00 Truth Be Told 19:30 Dr. Ken 20:00 Two And A Half Men 20:30 Superstore 21:00 Cougar Town 21:30 Cougar Town



00:30 Black Beauty 02:15 Marvel's Iron Man & Captain America: Heroes United 03:45 Get Santa 05:30 Mousehunt 07:15 Black Beauty 09:00 Jingle All The Way 2 10:45 Get Santa 12:45 Peter Pan Live! 15:00 Alone For Christmas 17:00 The Good Dinosaur 19:00 Mostly Ghostly: Have You Met My Ghoulfriend 21:00 Little Man Tate 23:00 Alone For Christmas



FINDING FORRESTER ON OSN MOVIES FESTIVAL

## 55 Kumait Time CLASSIFIEDS <u>Kuwait Times</u> MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2016

1:45 PM

THE NEIGHBOR



#### CHANGE OF NAME

IHATIM S/o MANSUR, hold-

er of Indian Passport No.

#### 1.1 SHARQIA-1 ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY 1:00 PM MOANA MOANA 3:15 PM FANAR-3 MOANA 5:30 PM TAHT AL TARABEZA MOANA 7:45 PM TAHT AL TARABEZA TAHT AL TARABEZA 10:15 PM COLLATERAL BEAUTY 12:30 AM SHARQIA-2 ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY 12:30 PM ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY-3D 3:30 PM 6:30 PM ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY 9:30 PM ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY 12:30 AM **Sharqia-3** Moana Collateral Beauty 12:00 PM 2:30 PM MANTAQH MAHZOURAH 4:45 PM COLLATERAL BEAUTY 7:00 PM MANTAQH MAHZOURAH 9:15 PM ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY 11:30 PM MUHALAB-1 COLLATERAL BEAUTY 12:45 PM COLLATERAL BEAUTY 3:00 PM ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY 5:15 PM MANTAOH MAHZOURAH 8:15 PM MANTAQH MAHZOURAH 10:15 PM TAHT AL TARABEZA 12:15 AM **muhalab-2** Moana Moana 11:45 AM 2:00 PM MOANA 4:15 PM MOANA 6:30 PM COLLATERAL BEAUTY 8:45 PM COLLATERAL BEAUTY 11:00 PM COLLATERAL BEAUTY 1:15 AM MUHALAB-3 ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY 12:00 PM ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY 3:00 PM ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY-3D 6:00 PM ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY 9:00 PM ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY 12:05 AM FANAR-1 COLLATERAL BEAUTY 1:30 PM COLLATERAL BEAUTY 3:45 PM COLLATERAL BEAUTY 6:00 PM COLLATERAL BEAUTY 8:15 PM COLLATERAL BEAUTY 10:30 PM COLLATERAL BEAUTY 12:45 AM **Fanar-2** Moana Moana 11:30 AM 1:45 PM MOANA 4:00 PM

Kuwait

INTO THE FOREST MISS SLOANE INTO THE FOREST INTO THE FOREST
FANAR-4 ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY
FANAR-5 THE LAST KING MISS SLOANE MISS SLOANE MANTAQH MAHZOURAH MANTAQH MAHZOURAH MANTAQH MAHZOURAH THE LAST KING
MARINA-1 COLLATERAL BEAUTY MANTAQH MAHZOURAH TAHT AL TARABEZA COLLATERAL BEAUTY MANTAQH MAHZOURAH MANTAQH MAHZOURAH ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY
MARINA-2 ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY
MARINA-3 Moana Moana Moana Collateral Beauty Collateral Beauty
AVENUES-1 MOANA LAF WA DAWARAN MOANA ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY TAHT AL TARABEZA TAHT AL TARABEZA
AVENUES-2 MOANA -3D- 4DX

11:15 PM	MOANA -3D- 4DX	4:15 PM
	ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY -3D-4DX	6:45 PM
12.00 DM	ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY -3D- 4DX ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY -3D- 4DX	9:45 PM
12:00 PM 2:15 PM	ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY -3D-4DX ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY -3D- 4DX	12:30 AM 11:30 AM
4:30 PM	MOANA -3D- 4DX	2:15 PM
6:30 PM	MOANA -3D- 4DX	4:45 PM
9:30 PM	MOANA-3D- 4DX	7:15 PM
11:45 PM	ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY -3D-4DX	9:45 PM
	ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY -3D- 4DX	12:30 AM
1:00 PM	AVENUES-3	
3:45 PM	MANTAQH MAHZOURAH	12:00 PM
6:30 PM 9:15 PM	MANTAQH MAHZOURAH MANTAQH MAHZOURAH	2:00 PM 4:00 PM
12:05 AM	MANTAQH MAHZOURAH	4:00 PM
12.05 AM	MANTAQH MAHZOURAH	8:00 PM
	ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY	10:00 PM
11:30 AM	THE LAST KING	1:00 AM
1:45 PM		
4:15 PM 7:00 PM	AVENUES-4 COLLATERAL BEAUTY	11:30 AM
9:00 PM	COLLATERAL BEAUTY	1:30 PM
11:00 PM	MOANA	3:45 PM
1:00 AM	Special Show "MOANA"	3:45 PM
	MOANA	6:15 PM
	COLLATERAL BEAUTY	8:45 PM
11:45 AM 2:00 PM	COLLATERAL BEAUTY COLLATERAL BEAUTY	11:00 PM 1:15 AM
3:45 PM	COLLATERAL BEAUT	TTO AIVI
6:00 PM	AVENUES-5	
8:15 PM	ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY	12:00 PM
	ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY - 3D	3:00 PM
12:30 AM	Special Show "ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY" ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY	2:00 PM 6:00 PM
	Special Show "ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY"	
11:30 AM	ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY -3D	9:00 PM
2:30 PM	ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY	12:05 AM
5:30 PM		
8:30 PM	AVENUES-6	12.20 014
11:30 PM	COLLATERAL BEAUTY COLLATERAL BEAUTY	12:30 PM 2:45 PM
	COLLATERAL BEAUTY	5:00 PM
12:30 PM	COLLATERAL BEAUTY	7:15 PM
2:45 PM	COLLATERAL BEAUTY	9:30 PM
5:00 PM	COLLATERAL BEAUTY	11:45 PM
7:15 PM 9:30 PM	AVENUES-7	
11:45 PM	MOANA	1:00 PM
	MOANA	3:30 PM
	INTO THE FOREST	6:15 PM
12:30 PM	INTO THE FOREST	8:30 PM
2:45 PM	INTO THE FOREST	10:45 PM
5:00 PM 7:30 PM	INTO THE FOREST	1:00 AM
10:30 PM	AVENUES-8	
12:45 AM	FANTASTIC BEASTS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM	12:15 PM
	TROLLS	3:00 PM
11 20 414	DEAR ZINDAGI -Hindi	5:15 PM
11:30 AM	Special Show "ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY"	25:15 PM

KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (15/12/2016 TO 21/12/2016)

THE NEIGHBOR COLLATERAL BEAUTY	10:15 PM 12:30 AM	K8514434 and Civil ID No. 291072601473 has changed my name to
360°- 1 ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY -3D ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY -3D ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY	11:30 AM 2:30 PM 5:30 PM 8:30 PM 11:30 PM	HATIM MANSUR NAJMI, hereinafter in all my dealing and documents I will be known by name of HATIM MANSUR NAJMI. (C 5249) 17-12-2016
<b>360 °- 2</b> ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY TAHT AL TARABEZA LAF WA DAWARAN TAHT AL TARABEZA TAHT AL TARABEZA TAHT AL TARABEZA	12:45 PM 3:45 PM 6:00 PM 8:15 PM 10:30 PM 12:45 AM	<b>I, Chejalla</b> Nageshwar Raju (old name) S/o. Chejarla Pedda Chengal Raju, R/o. H.No. 2/150, Bommavaram (V) & (P), Obulavaripalli (M), Y.S.R. Kadapa, Dist., A.P.
360°- 3 INTO THE FOREST INTO THE FOREST INTO THE FOREST INTO THE FOREST INTO THE FOREST INTO THE FOREST	12:30 PM 3:00 PM 5:15 PM 7:30 PM 9:45 PM 12:05 AM	hereby state that I have changed my name as CHE- JARLA NAGESWAR RAJU (new name). (C 5247) 13-12-2016
AL-KOUT.1 ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY	1:15 PM 4:00 PM 6:45 PM 9:30 PM 12:15 AM	SITUATION WANTED Purchase Manager experi- ence 20 years in construc- tions field, seeking for job
AL-KOUT.2 MOANA MOANA MOANA	12:45 PM 3:00 PM 5:15 PM	in one of the leading Co. Tel: 99061637. ( <b>C 5248)</b> 1 <b>8-12-2016</b>
MOANA MISS SLOANE MISS SLOANE	7:30 PM 9:45 PM 12:30 AM	
AL-KOUT.3 MISS SLOANE TAHT AL TARABEZA MISS SLOANE MANTAQH MAHZOURAH MANTAQH MAHZOURAH TAHT AL TARABEZA	1:15 PM 3:45 PM 6:00 PM 8:45 PM 10:45 PM 12:45 AM	
AL-KOUT.4 COLLATERAL BEAUTY INTO THE FOREST	12:15 PM 2:30 PM	PRAYER TIMINGS
INTO THE FOREST COLLATERAL BEAUTY INTO THE FOREST	4:45 PM 7:00 PM 9:15 PM	Fajr: 05:12 Shorook 06:37
COLLATERAL BEAUTY BAIRAQ-1	11:30 PM	Duhr: 11:45 Asr: 14:31
MOANA MOANA ROGUE ONE:A STAR WARS STORY	11:45 AM 2:00 PM 1:15 PM	Maghrib: 16:53 Isha: 18:16



MOANA -3D- 4DX

6:15 PM

8:30 PM

MOANA

ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY-3D

### Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

8:15 PM

### **DIAL161** FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

	-	ts on Monday 19/12/201		KAC	614	Bahrain	13:30		-	ghts on Monday 19/12/20		JZR	176	Dubai	13:
irlines	Flt	Route	Time	KAC	564	Amman	13:40	Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	MSR	611	Cairo	14:
AC	776	Riyadh	00:20	FEG	931	Alexandria	13:55	AIC	982	Ahmedabad/Chennai	00:05	UAE	872	Dubai	14:
ZR	267	Beirut	00:30	KNE	231	Riyadh	13:55	PIA	206	Lahore	00:40	KAC	693	Muscat	14:
ZR	539	Cairo	00:40	KAC	672	Dubai	14:00	FDB	072	Dubai	00:40	KNE	382	Taif	14:
ΗY	772	Istanbul	00:55	FDB	059	Dubai	14:20	JAI	573	Mumbai	00:50	FEG	932	Alexandria	14:
AC	102	London	00:55	SVA	500	Jeddah	14:30	BBC	044	Dhaka	01:30	KAC	673	Dubai	15
AC	742	Dammam	01:00	KAC	414	Bangkok	14:35	KAC	417	Manila	02:00	FDB	060	Dubai	15
JA	642	Amman	01:05	GFA	221	Bahrain	14:40	THY	773	Istanbul	02:25	KAC	785	Jeddah	15
TR	1086	Doha	01:15	KAC	542	Cairo	14:45	DLH		Frankfurt	02:55	PAL	669	Dubai/Manila	15
HY	764	Istanbul	01:50	KNE	529	Jeddah	14:55		635			GFA	222	Bahrain	15
LH	635	Doha	01:55			Abu Dhabi		ETH	621	Addis Ababa	03:05	SVA	501	Jeddah	15
GT	858	Istanbul	02:00	ETD	303		15:15	PGT	859	Istanbul	03:35	KNE	530	Jeddah	15
TH	620	Addis Ababa		OMA	645	Muscat	15:35	UAE	854	Dubai	03:45	KAC	619	Doha	16
			02:05	UAE	857	Dubai	15:45	OMA	644	Muscat	03:55	KAC	283	Dhaka	16
AE	853	Dubai	02:30	ABY	127	Sharjah	15:50	KKK	6505	Istanbul	03:55				
iFA	211	Bahrain	02:30	KAC	154	Istanbul	15:55	THY	765	Istanbul	04:00	KAC	357	Kochi	16
RZ	193	TBS	02:30	SAW	705	Damascus	16:00	ETD	306	Abu Dhabi	04:10	ETD	304	Abu Dhabi	16
KK	6506	Istanbul	02:55	QTR	1072	Doha	16:10	MSR	613	Cairo	04:10	ABY	128	Sharjah	16
MA	643	Muscat	02:55	FDB	051	Dubai	16:25	QTR	1077	Doha	04:40	OMA	646	Muscat	16
DB	069	Dubai	03:05	KAC	788	Jeddah	16:30	MSC	502	Alexandria	04.40	SAW	706	Damascus	16
1SR	612	Cairo	03:10	KAC	662	Abu Dhabi	16:35					JZR	266	Beirut	17
TD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:10	RJA	640	Amman	16:55	CEB	0019	Manila	05:20	JZR	240	Amman	17
EB	0018	Manila	03:15					BRZ	194	TBS	05:30	FDB	052	Dubai	17
TR	1076	Doha	03:30	SVA	510	Riyadh	17:15	QTR	1087	Doha	05:50	KAC	363	Colombo	17
AC	358	Kochi	03:30	GFA	215	Bahrain	17:30	FEG	954	Asyut	06:00	KAC	343	Chennai	17
AC	784	Jeddah	03:55	JZR	777	Jeddah	17:45	JZR	560	Sohag	06:05	QTR	073	Doha	17
ISC	501	Alexandria	04:05	UAE	875	Dubai	18:00	FDB	070	Dubai	06:30	JZR	538	Cairo	17
AC	418	Manila	04:25	FDB	063	Dubai	18:10	KAC	153	Istanbul	06:50	UAE	858	Dubai	17
				JZR	177	Dubai	18:20	THY	771	Istanbul	06:50	RJA	641	Amman	17
AC	284	Dhaka	04:55	KAC	502	Beirut	18:45	KAC	165	Rome	06:55	KAC	331	Trivandrum	18
EG	933	Sohag	05:00	QTR	1080	Doha	18:50	JZR	164	Dubai	06:55	KAC	353	BLR	18
ZR	503	Luxor	05:10	ABY	123	Sharjah	19:25	RJA	643		07:05	SVA	511	Riyadh	18
НХ	170	Bahrain	05:20	GFA	217	Bahrain	19:30			Amman		GFA	216	Bahrain	18
AC	354	BLR	05:20	KAC	674	Dubai	19:45	KAC	541	Cairo	07:15				
AC	332	Trivandrum	05:45					GFA	212	Bahrain	07:15	JZR	184	Dubai	18
HY	770	Istanbul	05:55	KAC	620	Doha	19:50	KAC	163	Paris	07:25	FDB	064	Dubai	19
AC	384	Delhi	06:05	FDB	057	Dubai	19:50	KAC	773	Riyadh	07:30	UAE	876	Dubai	19
AC	364	Colombo	06:05	KNE	381	Taif	19:55	KAC	173	Munich	07:35	QTR	1081	Doha	19
AC	206	Islamabad	06:20	KAC	166	Rome	19:55	KAC	563	Amman	08:00	ABY	124	Sharjah	20
AW	157	London	06:40	KAC	694	Muscat	20:00	BAW	156	London	08:40	GFA	218	Bahrain	20
AL	668	Manila/Dubai	07:00	OMA	647	Muscat	20:10	FDB	054	Dubai	08:55	KAC	383	Delhi	20
DB	053	Dubai	07:50	QTR	1088	Doha	20:35	KAC	743	Dammam	09:00	FDB	058	Dubai	20
AC	302	Mumbai	08:20	KAC	174	Munich	20:45	KAC	117	New York	09:00	KAC	775	Riyadh	20
AE	855	Dubai	08:40	DLH	634	Frankfurt	20:45					KNE	232	Riyadh	20
AC	855 382	Dubai Delhi		JAI	572	Mumbai	20:45	KAC	671	Dubai	09:15	KAC	1543	Cairo	21
			08:45	FDB	5053	Dubai		KAC	101	London	09:35	OMA	648	Muscat	21
BY	125	Sharjah Abu Dhabi	09:05				21:00	ABY	126	Sharjah	09:45	KAC	205	Islamabad	21
TD	301	Abu Dhabi	09:05	KAC	786	Jeddah	21:15	UAE	856	Dubai	09:55	KAC	345	Ahmedabad	21
AC	352	Kochi	09:10	ETD	307	Abu Dhabi	21:20	KAC	501	Beirut	10:00	QTR	1089	Doha	21
TR	1070	Doha	09:30	MEA	402	Beirut	21:20	KAC	161	Geneva	10:10	DLH	634	Doha	21
DB	055	Dubai	09:40	ALK	229	Colombo	21:25	KAC	613	Bahrain	10:10	DHX	171	Bahrain	21
RA	667	Esfahan	10:00	UAE	859	Dubai	21:40	ETD	302	Abu Dhabi	10:10	JAI	571	Mumbai	21
iFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	GFA	219	Bahrain	21:45	FDB	056	Dubai	10:35				
YR	341	Damascus	11:00	QTR	1082	Doha	22:00	KAC	787	Jeddah	10:35	ETD	308	Abu Dhabi	22
AC	774	Riyadh	11:05	ETD	309	Abu Dhabi	22:15					MEA	403	Beirut	22
XB	889	Mangalore/Bahrain	11:10	AIC	975	Chennai/Goa	22:15	QTR	1071	Doha Estata a	10:40	ALK	230	Colombo	22
ZR	165	Dubai	11:30					IRA	666	Esfahan	11:00	JZR	528	Asyut	22
IEA	404	Beirut	11:55	JZR	241	Amman	22:45	GFA	214	Bahrain	11:25	FDB	5054	Dubai	22
				KAC	164	Paris	22:55	SYR	342	Damascus	12:00	GFA	220	Bahrain	22
AC	744	Dammam	12:10	JZR	185	Dubai	23:15	KAC	661	Abu Dhabi	12:05	KAC	381	Delhi	22
EG	953	Asyut	12:35	FDB	071	Dubai	23:45	JZR	776	Jeddah	12:05	KAC	301	Mumbai	22
ZR	561	Sohag	12:40	JAI	574	Mumbai	23:50	AXB	890	Mangalore	12:10	UAE	860	Dubai	22
AE	871	Dubai	12:50	BBC	143	Dhaka	23:55	MEA	405	Beirut	12:55	ETD	310	Abu Dhabi	23
ISR		Cairo	13:00												Z.



### **CROSSWORD 1465**

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#### ACROSS

1. An enzyme that catalyzes the oxidation of many body compounds (e.g., epinephrine and norepinephrine and serotonin).

4. Any shrub or tree of the genus Banksia having alternate leathery leaves apetalous yellow flowers often in showy heads and conelike fruit with winged seeds.

11. A British imperial capacity measure (liquid or dry) equal to 4 gills or 568.26 cubic centimeters.

- 15. Black-and-white short-necked webfooted diving bird of northern seas. 16. Of or relating to the ancient
- Aramaic languages.
- 17. Type genus of the Aceraceae. 18. Feed, care for, and rear young birds for flight.
- 19. A method of self-defense without weapons that was developed in China and Japan.

21. Hormone secreted by the posterior pituitary gland (trade name Pitressin) and also by nerve endings in the hypothalamus.

22. The capital and largest city of Bangladesh.

24. Resembling the new moon in shape.

- 26. Enter into a list of prospective jurors.
- 28. A large fleet.

32. Firmly fastened or secured against opening.

35. Any of numerous local fertility and nature deities worshipped by ancient Semitic peoples.

36. A long thin fluffy scarf of feathers or fur. 38. Someone who asks a question. 39. A man who is a stupid fool. 47. A vellow trivalent metallic element of the rare earth group. 48. The sense organ for hearing and equilibrium. 50. The condition of having no arms. solmization. 54. Type genus of the family Arcidae. 55. A landowner who leases to others. family Labiatae. 59. The inner and longer of the two bones of the human forearm. 62. Give life-like qualities to. 65. Ruffed grouse. 68. Provide with clothes or put clothes drug laws. on. 69.100 avos equal 1 pataca. States. 70. A nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (trade name Clinoril). 72. A benevolent aspect of Devi. 73. (British) Your grandmother. 74. Tuberous or rhizomatous herbaceous perennials. 75. A female person who has the same parents as another person. Old Testament. DOWN 1. A Chadic language spoken south of Lake Chad. Hausa. 2. A Scottish word. 3. An endorsement. 4. Capital and largest city of Iraq. 5. A particular geographical region of indefinite boundary (usually serving some special purpose or distinguished by its people or culture or geography).

#### **STAR TRACK**

### Aries (March 21-April 19)

You are revered for your ability to make commonsense decisions that affect others. You just somehow know what the community wants and needs. You enjoy a social life that includes a contribution of your time that is involved in volunteer work. You might volunteer your sunday afternoons to a pregnancy and adoption center in or near your town. You could be helpful in the outreach and intervention program for adolescents. You might also help to sort and tag clothing items, organize the shop, design window arrangements and perform cashier duties for a thrift shop. You are good at getting your message over to others and may be called upon to do just that. Your timing is perfect when it comes to being helpful for others.

### Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Today should find you with the ability to take charge and tackle tasks that require real discipline and organization. You may, however, have some serious or contemplative moments. Family members or friends may have to call out your name, if they want to get you to respond to their words. By this afternoon, you will have completed all your tasks. There is a lot of motivation to help the younger members with their errands. Someone passing by your house may get the feeling of a party instead of work. You have an opportunity to join up with others this afternoon. You enjoy meeting a variety of people. There could be a museum, art gallery or very large flea market or charity drive today. Laughter and music is easy to find.

### Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Follow through now on a promise that you made earlier last week. This could be a great day for thinking and ideas. You have plenty of mentors and can also provide the same comfort to others that just want to talk. It could be you have volunteered to visit people that are handicapped or not able to get out without some help. A grand party gathering may place you around the unmarried people your age. This time the conversation is in a better sharing mode. You have a loving spirit. Marry for money and then learn to love 'em: that's what your heart tells you now, as a new cycle gets underway in your life. Does that sound cynicalmaybe so-but it does reflect the yearning you feel for security now, and it suggests the kind of compromises you are willing to make

#### Cancer (June 21-July 22)

You will benefit from taking an inward direction, turning away from the outward world a bit and allowing new ideas and information to filter through. Accepting compliments from someone is usually a nice experience-this time is no exception. Someone you do not know flatters you on your preferences or possessions. Keeping an eye on your money, you shop to fill the refrigerator with some of your family's favorite foods today. You may find it very easy to enjoy and value your own life circumstances or to feel especially kind towards a friend or loved one. This evening is a good time to think and study-you have a liking for new ideas. This evening you may find yourself engrossed in writing a letter or making a special phone call.

### Leo (July 23-August 22)

This is a great day with lots of energy. This is the day to start new projects or push forward with those projects already begun. You may enjoy a sense of creating your own opportunities. You may decide to do volunteer work in a children's clinic. You could answer phones, file, log in medicines and donations, run errands or prepare information packets on those important immunizations. Diet and exercise somehow mean more now, as you just want to feel good about yourself and the way that you do things. A sense of belonging to something bigger than the merely personal becomes a greater focus in your life. You attach a lot of importance to friendships and you enjoy taking part in a group celebration this evening.

### Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Some frustrations could exist at home but they disappear quickly. There are many things for your family to experience today and it might be a good idea to write the choices of activities down on separate pieces of paper and have them draw or choose. Divide them into two jars: one marked responsibilities and the other jar marked wishes. Divide the responsibilities evenly, even if it is not a thing you or someone else usually does, and then pull out a number of wishes. Now, a fun day has been created. Mysteries and arguments and difficult endless tasks have come to an end. Now you have cooperation and laughter throughout the whole day. Learning and passing on to others what you have learned or experienced will keep the doors of communication open.

#### Libra (September 23-October 22)

Family, home and the other connections in your life give you a sense of mission. There is growth and gain through these things. This is generally a fruitful period for real-estate investments. Seeking advice with this subject would be good. Knowledge and communicating take care of a natural need to learn. You should benefit appreciably from allowing your unique qualities to grow. Some new solutions to problems that may have confounded you before now may become evident at this time. A new idea or invention comes to your attention that will make the life of someone in your family much easier; some sort of easy-open can opener would be convenient for those that do not see well. Your dreams can become your next reality.

## Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

You will flourish by pursuing your dreams of how life could be. Don't be afraid to create a plan and see the completed project-make those dreams real. This could be anything like the next winner of a popular television contest, the winner in a dance contest, the number one author of the month, etc. There is an increased need to guide others, perhaps as you were guided. This may be the beginning of some volunteer opportunity. You enjoy viewing and showing off the older parts of your city and may decide to join a heritage guild. You enjoy teaching about the historic buildings, music, food, crafts and exhibits. These things reflect the process of growth to today's lifestyle in your city. You might enjoy being a tour guide.

### Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Your guidance is needed today and you are wise in determining the avenues of support that the advice-seeker may need. This could mean a friend within your religious group or a neighbor-you are happy to help. This afternoon you work on a budget. Others in your family want and agree to help make things easier. There may be some part-time work activity going on during the weekends. What you want to spend during the holiday and what is realistic to spend are important points to ponder just now. All this talk about money and other people's problems does not put a dent in a most fun day. You find yourself on the receiving end of a long line of well-wishers, at a wellplanned party. Surprise!

## Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

A friend or associate may come to you for help in working through some issues that are very personal. Being in a position to understand allows you to help resolve some potentially explosive subject matter. You are able to cut to the chase and get at what lies beneath and behind the problem. The secret to successfully helping this person is to step away from the approval mode and help with the facts instead. Decisions are easily made when we know the facts. Your friendship is valued. You might consider volunteer work that would serve as a court-appointed advocate for a child in protective placement or in a disputed custody case. You would be very good at investigation and recommendations surrounding the best interest of young people.



#### Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

This would be an ideal time for surrounding yourself with friends and young

people and for having a good time. You are comfortable with your particular situation and enjoy support from those around you. It may be that time of the year, when you and your friends visit each other just to see or help with the decorations at each other's homes and enjoy the afternoon. Perhaps the visits will begin in one home and progress to others for what is called a progressive dinner party. The end would be for dessert and a hot drink and opening gift packages, if appropriate. You should be feeling very healthy and ready for most any activity. It is difficult to connect with peers when one is not focused. This current activity is perfect for nurturing friendships.

## Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Fondness and appreciation for the past and for your roots in life take on a greater meaning and importance for you now. Distant family members may be visiting from a distant land. Research goes into finding a family crest or in finding a gift that will help keep the memories of this time fresh. Making your home situation most pleasant and attractive plays a part in this. Of course, the sale or purchase of real estate could bring you much gain before this cycle is through, if you are looking to sell your home. You may find it easy to enjoy or value your own life situation today or you could find yourself feeling especially kindhearted toward a friend or loved one. A visitor in your home pays you a nice compliment on your decorating choices.

etables. al attendant to his employer.

- be shipped and assembled elsewhere.
- 31. The blood group whose red cells
- carry both the A and B antigens.
- 33. A native or inhabitant of Iran.
- lent metallic element.
- 40. A wall hanging of heavy handwoven fabric with pictorial designs.
- 41. A male monarch or emperor (espe-

eggs or give birth to their young.

ceding July.

cooked on a skewer usually with veg-

- 25. A manservant who acts as a person-
- 29. Follower of Rastafarianism.
- 30. A person who makes things.

- cially of Russia prior to 1917).
- reflex spasms of the diaphragm accom-

9. Being one more than two. 10. Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (trade names Acular and Toradol) that is administered only intramuscu-

6. A silvery soft waxy metallic element

7. A metric unit of length equal to 1000

8. A mountain peak in the Andes in

of the alkali metal group.

meters (or 0.621371 miles).

Bolivia (21,391 feet high).

larly. 11. Hurt or upset.

12. Of or relating to a seizure or convulsion.

13. A structure in which animals lay

14. Consistent with fact or reality.

20. The month following May and pre-

23. Cubes of meat marinated and

27. Manufactured in standard sizes to

- 34. A genus of Ploceidae.
- 37. A light strong brittle gray toxic biva-
- 42. (usually plural) The state of having

panied by a rapid closure of the glottis producing an audible sound. 44. Late Jurassic carnivorous dinosaur. 45. A river in southeastern France. 46. The syllable naming the fourth (subdominant) note of the diatonic scale in 49. A genus of Old World mints of the 51. Exhaled breath. 52. Designer drug designed to have the effects of amphetamines (it floods the brain with serotonin) but to avoid the 53. A state in north central United 56. A statistical method for making simultaneous comparisons between two or more means. 57. A fine strong sheer silky fabric made of silk or rayon or nylon. 58. Dwell (archaic). 60. The mother-in-law of Ruth whose story is told in the Book of Ruth in the 61. A Chadic language spoken in northern Nigeria and closely related to 63. The template for protein synthesis. 64. Type genus of the Alcidae comprising solely the razorbill. 66. God of the underworld. 67. A rapid escape (as by criminals).

71. Being one more than fifty.

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A	E	G	Ι	L	0	P	S		F	Ε		Α	R	Α	В
D	Α	H		Р	L	E	I	Α	D	E	S		Α	В	A
A	R	A		S	A	R	Α	В	A	N	D		М	Α	N

#### Wordsearch Puzzle

#### Astronomy

Find and circle all of the Astronomy related words that are hidden in the grid The remaining letters spell a secret message.

Т	Н	Т	F	А	R	С	Е	С	А	Ρ	S	Ρ	Е	L	F	А	1	R	S
0	R	В	I,	Т	S	R	Т	S	Ρ	М	Е	М	1	Е	V	R	E	S	0
Ν	Т	0	D	S	Ρ	S	А	Е	A	R	I.	G	0	0	Т	T	Q	Н	R
S	S	F	L	R	А	U	0	Т	1	Т	Н	L	Ν	0	R	0	U	Е	Е
R	0	Т	0	Е	С	Ν	Е	G	S	Т	Е	R	Κ	U	Ν	в	T.	С	D
А	Ľ	Е	R	М	Е	0	Е	Ρ	Y	Y	Е	L	А	Y	В	0	Ν	А	G
S	А	С	Е	0	S	Е	Ν	Е	0	Ρ	R	Т	L	L	W	Ν	0	Ρ	I.
L	R	L	т	Ν	Н	Т	А	S	U	С	Ν	А	Е	J.	S	А	Х	S	А
U	W	1	S	0	U	R	R	S	Т	Е	S	F	Ν	0	Т	М	Y	Ρ	N
Ρ	1	Ρ	А	R	Т	А	н	E	С	Е	R	Е	L	1	М	Е	А	Е	т
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L	R	D	G	А	Е	1	L	D	R	S	А	Е	А	Т	Т	0	0	Ν	L
U	Е	L	Е	Е	Х	А	Е	А	Y	E	L	Ν	L	Т	1	R	R	С	6
в	Т	Т	Е	0	Х	Т	S	S	1	R	А	L	0	Ρ	1	V	А	Е	L
Е	А	А	R	1	T	А	Т	М	0	S	Ρ	н	Е	R	Е	0	А	S	Е
N	R	Ρ	Е	н	U	Е	L	0	н	к	С	A	L	в	0	ĸ	Ν	R	0
R	С	S	W	Q	М	М	U	N	1	V	Е	R	S	Е	s	С	т	A	G
A	N	D	R	0	М	Е	D		G		L		X		R	0	N	Р	G

ANDROMEDA GALAXY	DEEP SPACE	MOON	SOLAR SYSTEM
APOGEE	ECLIPSE	NEBULA	SOLAR WIND
ASTEROID	EQUINOX	ORBIT	SPACE SHUTTLE
ASTRONOMER	GALAXIES	PARSEC	SPACECRAFT
ATMOSPHERE	GALILEO	PERIGEE	STARS
AURORA	GRAVITY	POLARIS	SUN
BINARY STAR	HUBBLE	PROXIMA CENTAURI	SUPERNOVA
BLACK HOLE	KEPLER	PULSARS	TELESCOPE
CONSTELLATION	LIGHT YEAR	QUASARS	TIDES
CORONA	METEOR	RED GIANT	UNIVERSE
CRATER	MILKY WAY	SATELLITE	WHITE DWARF

#### Daily SuDoku

9				2	8		
		5	3				7
				7	6	3	
8				T	· · · · · · ·		
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	9	4	7				
7				4	2		
		6	2				4

### Yesterday's Solution

#### Animals 3

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A	A	A	U	8	6	FM	X	X	M	X	S	A	L	A	Ÿ.	G
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R	E	S	×	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	à	11	E	Т	Е	С
P	R	X	h	X	X	A	X	X	X	K	0	R	в	8	M	ñ
A	X	X	Ń	Æ	X	X	à	X	À	E	0	T	E	A	U	G
N	X	X	X	Ž	K	X	X	6	A	2	N	S	E	D	S	U
K	M	T	1	<u>l</u>	F	4	P	NE	X	M	Y	0	S	G	S	A
A	Ś	P	S	0		<u> </u>	P	À.	Ž.	Y	R	Q	Т	E	0	N
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Ē	R	U		L	U	v (	2	E	R	U		(A)	N	U	U	A

ALBATROSS	EGRET	LIZARD	PUFFIN
ALPACA	ERMINE	LOON	PYTHON
ANACONDA	FALCON	MARMOSET	SHARK
ARMADILLO	FERRET	MARTEN	SKUNK
ASP	FINCH	MOLE	SNAKE
BADGER	GERBIL	MONGOOSE	SQUIRREL
CARIBOU	GIBBON	MULE	SWALLOW
CHAMELEON	GROUSE	MUSKOX	VULTURE
CONDOR	GULL	OCELOT	WARTHOG
COUGAR	HARE	OSTRICH	WILDEBEEST
COW	HYENA	PANDA	WOLF
CROCODILE	IGUANA	PHEASANT	
DINGO	LEMUR	POSSUM	

The hidden animal is: JAMAICAN WOODPECKER

#### Yesterday's Solution

7	2	4	1	3	8	9	6	5
1	6	8	5	4	9	7	3	2
9	3	5	7	2	6	8	1	4
5	4	2	9	8	-	6	7	3
8	1	6	3	7	4	5	2	9
3	9	7	2	6	5	4	8	1
2	5	1	8	9	7	3	4	6
4	7	9	6	1	3	2	5	8
6	8	3	4	5	2	1	9	7

## Kuwait 🗻 Times 5

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2016

#### For labor-related inquiries and complaints: Call MSAL hotline 128

Hospitals						
Sabah Hospital	24812000					
Amiri Hospital	22450005					
Maternity Hospital	24843100					
Mubarak Al-Kabir Hospital	25312700					
Chest Hospital	24849400					
Farwaniya Hospital	24892010					
Adan Hospital	23940620					
Ibn Sina Hospital	24840300					
Al-Razi Hospital	24846000					
Physiotherapy Hospital	24874330/9					

Clinics								
Kaizen center	25716707							
Rawda	22517733							
Adaliya	22517144							
Khaldiya	24848075							
Kaifan	24849807							
Shamiya	24848913							
Shuwaikh	24814507							
Abdullah Salem	22549134							
Nuzha	22526804							
Industrial Shuwaikh	24814764							
Qadsiya	22515088							
Dasmah	22532265							
Bneid Al-Gar	22531908							
Shaab	22518752							
Qibla	22459381							
Ayoun Al-Qibla	22451082							
Mirqab	22456536							
Sharq	22465401							
Salmiya	25746401							
Jabriya	25316254							
Maidan Hawally	25623444							
Bayan	25388462							
Mishref	25381200							
W Hawally	22630786							
Sabah	24810221							



GOVERNORATE	PHARMACY
Ahmadi	Sama Safwan Abu Halaifa Danat Al-Sultan
Jahra	Modern Jahra Madina Munawara
Capital	Ahlam Khaldiya Coop
Farwaniya	New Shifa Ferdous Coop Modern Safwan
Hawally	Tariq Hana Ikhlas Hawally & Rawdha Ghadeer Kindy Ibn Al-Nafis Mishrif Coop

### **PHARMACIES ON 24 HRS DUTY**

PHARMACY	ADDRESS	PHONE
Sama Safwan	Fahaeel Makka St	23915883
Abu Halaifa	Abu Halaifa-Coastal Rd	23715414
Danat Al-Sultan	Mahboula Block 1, Coastal Rd	23726558
Modern Jahra	Jahra-Block 3 Lot 1	24575518
Madina Munawara	Jahra-Block 92	24566622
Ahlam	Fahad Al-Salem St	22436184
Khaldiya Coop	Khaldiya Coop	24833967
New Shifa	Farwaniya Block 40	24734000
Ferdous Coop	Ferdous Coop	24881201
Modern Safwan	Old Kheitan Block 11	24726638
Tariq	Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St	25726265
Hana	Salmiya-Amman St	25647075
Ikhlas	Hawally-Beirut St	22625999
Hawally & Rawdha	Hawally & Rawdha Coop	22564549
Ghadeer	Jabriya-Block 1A	25340559
Kindy	Jabriya-Block 3B	25326554
Ibn Al-Nafis	Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St	25721264
Mishrif Coop	Mishrif Coop	25380581
Salwa Coop	Salwa Coop	25628241



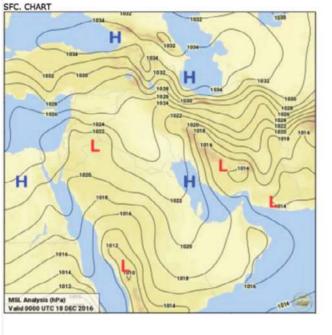
Tel: (+965) 161 Ext: 2627 - 2630 Fax: (+965) 24348714 www.met.gov.kw

**Kuwait Forecast** 

Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours Issued 18/12/2016-07:00 LT UTC +3hr

Max Temperature 18 °C

By Day : Mostly sunny with light to moderate north westerly wind, with speed of 12 - 35 km/h By Night : Cold with light to moderate north westerly wind, with speed of 08 - 28 km/h and some high clouds will appear



Four-Day Forecast

Warnings & Weather Watches		
	Warnings & Weather Watches	1

Station	MIN °C REC	Max °C EXP
KUWAIT CITY	12	18
KUWAIT AIRPORT	06	18
ABDALY	06	18
BUBYAN	06	18
JAHRA	09	18
FAILAKA ISLAND	10	17
SALMIYAH	13	16
AHMADI	13	16
JAL ALIYAH	07	17
QAROH ISLAND	16	18
UMM AL-MARADEM	16	18
NUWAISIB	09	19
WAFRA	07	19
MANAGISH	07	17
SALMY	06	17
MUTRIBA	05	21
Recorded Yesterday	at Kuwait	Airport
Max Temp (°C)		17
Min Temp (°C)		04

INTERNATI CALLS			1
Afghanistan	0093	Lithuania	00370
Albania Algeria	00355 00213	Luxembourg Macau	00352 00853
Andorra	00376	Macedonia	00389
Angola Anguilla	00244	Madagascar Majorca	00261 0034
Antiga	001268	Malawi	00265
Argentina Armenia	0054	Malaysia Maldives	0060
Australia	0061	Mali	00223
Austria	0043	Malta	00356
Azerbaijan Bahamas	00994	Marshall Islands Martinique	00692 00596
Bahrain	00973	Mauritania	00222
Bangladesh Barbados	00880	Mauritius Mayotte	00230 00269
Belarus	00375	Mexico	0052
Belgium	0032	Micronesia Moldova	00691
Belize Benin	00501 00229	Monaco	00373 00377
Bermuda	001441	Mongolia	00976
Bhutan Bolivia	00975	Montserrat Morocco	001664 00212
Bosnia	00387	Mozambique	00258
Botswana	00267	Myanmar (Burma) Namibia	0095 00264
Brazil Brunei	0055 00673	Nepal	00264
Bulgaria	00359	Netherlands	0031
Burkina Burundi	00226 00257	Netherlands Antilles New Caledonia	00599 00687
Cambodia	00257	New Zealand	0064
Cameroon Canada	00237	Nicaragua Nigar	00505 00227
Cape Verde	00238	Nigeria	00227
Cayman Islands	001345	Niue	00683
Central African Chad	00236	Norfolk Island N. Ireland (UK)	00672 0044
Chile	0056	North Korea	00850
China Colombia	0086	Norway Oman	0047 00968
Comoros	00269	Pakistan	00908
Congo	00242	Palau	00680
Cook Islands Costa Rica	00682	Panama Papua New Guinea	00507 00675
Croatia	00385	Paraguay	00595
Cuba	0053 00357	Peru Philippines	0051 0063
Cyprus Cyprus (Northern)	0090392	Poland	0048
Czech Republic	00420	Portugal	00351
Denmark Diego Garcia	0045	Puerto Rico Qatar	001787 00974
Djibouti	00253	Romania	0040
Dominica Dominican Republic	001767	Russian Federation Rwanda	007 00250
Ecuador	00593	Saint Helena	00290
Egypt	0020	Saint Kitts Saint Lucia	001869 001758
El Salvador England (UK)	00503 0044	Saint Pierre	00508
Equatorial Guinea	00240	Saint Vincent	001784
Eritrea Estonia	00291 00372	Samoa US Samoa West	00684 00685
Ethiopia	00251	San Marino	00378
Falkland Islands Faroe Islands	00500	Sao Tome Saudi Arabia	00239 00966
Fiji	00679	Scotland (UK)	0044
Finland France	00358	Senegal Seychelles	00221 00284
French Guiana	00594	Sierra Leone	00232
French Polynesia	00689	Singapore	0065
Gabon Gambia	00241	Slovakia Slovenia	00421 00386
Georgia	00995	Solomon Islands	00677
Germany Ghana	0049 00233	Somalia South Africa	00252 0027
Gibraltar	00233	South Korea	0027
Greece	0030	Spain Sri Looko	0034
Greenland Grenada	00299 001473	Sri Lanka Sudan	0094 00249
Guadeloupe	00590	Suriname	00597
Guam Guatemala	001671	Swaziland Sweden	00268 0046
Guatemala Guinea	00502	Sweden Switzerland	0046
Guyana	00592	Syria	00963
Haiti Holland (Netherlands)	00509	Serbia Taiwan	00381 00886
Honduras	00504	Tanzania	00255
Hong Kong	00852	Thailand	0066
Hungary Ibiza (Spain)	0036 0034	Togo Tonga	00228 00676
Iceland	00354	Tokelau	00690
India Indian Ocean	0091 00873	Trinidad Tunisia	001868 00216
Indian Ocean Indonesia	00873	Turkey	00216
	0098	Tuvalu	00688
Iran	00964	Uganda Ukraine	00256 00380
Iran Iraq Ireland	00000	United Arab Emirates	00976
Iraq	0039		0044
Iraq Ireland Italy Ivory Coast	0039 00225	United Kingdom	
Iraq Ireland Italy	0039		00598 001
Iraq Ireland Italy Ivory Coast Jamaica Japan Jordan	0039 00225 001876 0081 00962	United Kingdom Uruguay USA Uzbekistan	00598 001 00998
Iraq Ireland Italy Ivory Coast Jamaica Japan Jordan Kazakhstan	0039 00225 001876 0081 00962 007	United Kingdom Uruguay USA Uzbekistan Vanuatu	00598 001 00998 00678
Iraq Ireland Italy Ivory Coast Jamaica Japan Jordan	0039 00225 001876 0081 00962	United Kingdom Uruguay USA Uzbekistan	00598 001 00998
Iraq Ireland Italy Ivory Coast Jamaica Japan Jordan Kazakhstan Kenya Kiribati Kuwait	0039 00225 001876 0081 00962 007 00254 00686 00965	United Kingdom Uruguay USA Uzbekistan Vanuatu Venezuela Vietnam Virgin Islands UK	00598 001 00998 00678 00582 0084 001284
Iraq Ireland Italy Ivory Coast Jamaica Japan Jordan Kazakhstan Kenya Kiribati	0039 00225 001876 0081 00962 007 00254 00686	United Kingdom Uruguay USA Uzbekistan Vanuatu Venezuela Vietnam	00598 001 00998 00678 00582 0084
Iraq Ireland Italy Ivory Coast Jamaica Japan Jordan Kazakhstan Kenya Kiribati Kuwait Kyrgyzstan	0039 00225 001876 0081 00962 007 00254 00686 00965 00996	United Kingdom Uruguay USA Uzbekistan Vanuatu Venezuela Venezuela Vietnam Virgin Islands UK Virgin Islands US Wales (UK) Yemen	00598 001 00998 00678 00582 0084 001284 001340 0044 00967
Iraq Ireland Italy Ivory Coast Jamaica Japan Jordan Kazakhstan Kazakhstan Kuibati Kuwait Kuwait Kyrgyzstan Laos Latvia Lebanon	0039 00225 001876 0081 00962 007 00254 00254 00686 00965 00996 00856 00371 00961	United Kingdom Uruguay USA Uzbekistan Vanuatu Venezuela Vietnam Vietnam Virgin Islands UK Virgin Islands US Virgin Islands US Yamen Yugoslavia	00598 001 00998 00678 00582 0084 001284 001284 001340 0044 00967 00381
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		-
New Jahra	24575755	
West Jahra	24772608	
South Jahra	24775066	
North Jahra	24775992	Exp
North Jleeb	24311795	Min
Ardhiya	24884079	Max
Firdous	24892674	Win
Omariya	24719048	Win
N Khaitan	24710044	All tir
Fintas	23900322	

24770319

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
	*	*	*	
Expected Weather	partly cloudy	partly cloudy + raising dust+ scatt.rain	partly cloudy + raising dust over open areas	cloudy
Min Temp °C	06	08	03	03
Max Temp °C	18	15	14	15
Wind Direction	north westerly to light variable	north westerly	north westerly	north westerly to light variable
Wind Speed km/h	06 - 26	20 - 40	15 - 40	06 - 26

Min Rel Hum (%)		29	29
Max Wind Speed (km/h) and Direction			NW
TOTAL R	AINFALL IN 24	HR 0	mm
*	Sunrise	06:	37
•	Sunset	16:	53
Prayer T	ïmes		
Fajr		05:12	
Sunrise		06:37	
Zuhr		11:44	
Asr		14:34	
Sunset		16:53	
Isha		18:15	

80

Max Rel Hum (%)



Jahra

#### Ophthalm aists Dr. Abidallah Al-Mansoor 25622444 Dr. Samy Al-Rabeea 25752222 Dr. Masoma Habeeb 25321171 Dr. Mubarak Al-Ajmy 25739999 Dr. Mohsen Abel 25757700 Dr Adnan Hasan Alwayl 25732223 Dr. Abdallah Al-Baghly 25732223 Ear, Nose & Th (ENT) Dr. Ahmed Fouad Mouner 24555050 Ext 510 Dr. Abdallah Al-Ali 25644660 Dr. Abd Al-Hameed Al-Taweel 25646478 Dr. Sanad Al-Fathalah 25311996 Dr. Mohammad Al-Daaory 25731988 Dr. Ismail Al-Fodary 22620166 25651426 Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz **General Pract** Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi 24555050 Ext 123 Dr. Yousef Al-Omar 24719312 Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem 23926920 Dr. Kathem Maarafi 25730465 Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah 25655528 Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi 24577781 Dr. Dina Abidallah Al-Refae 25333501 Urologis Dr. Ali Naser Al-Serfy 22641534 Dr. Fawzi Taher Abul 22639955 Dr. Khaleel Abidallah Al-Awadi 22616660 Dr. Adel Al-Hunayan FRCS (C) 25313120 Dr. Leons Joseph 66703427 Soor Center Psychologists Tel: 2290-1677 /Psychotherapists Fax: 2290 1688

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DrAdrian arbe

Dr Eisa M. Al-Balhan

Dr. Verginia s.Marin

Dr. Fozeya Ali Al-Qatan

**Dr. Ahmad Al-Khooly** 

Dr. Amer Zawaz Al-Amer

Dr. Mohammad Yousef Basher

Dr. Salem soso

Dr. Adnan Ebil

Dr. Mousa Khadada

Dr. Latefa Al-Duweisan

Dr. Nadem Al-Ghabra

Dr. Mobarak Aldoub

Dr Nasser Behbehani

Dr. Majeda Khalefa Aliytami

eons		Paediatricians			
	22547272	Dr. Khaled Hamadi	25665898		
	22617700	Dr. Abd Al-Aziz Al-Rashed	25340300		
	25625030/60	Dr. Zahra Qabazard	25710444		
tor		Dr. Sohail Qamar	22621099		
23	729596/23729581	Dr. Snaa Maaroof	25713514		
sts		Dr. Pradip Gujare	23713100		
	22635047	Dr. Zacharias Mathew	24334282		
22613623/0		Dermatolog	Dermatology		
bstetricians		Dr. Mohammed Salam			
237	29596/23729581	Bern University	23845955		
2572-6666 ext 8321		Dentists	Dentists		
	22655539	Dr Anil Thomas	3729596/372958		
i	25343406	Dr. Shamah Al-Matar	22641071/2		
	25739272	Dr. Anesah Al-Rasheed	22562226		
	22618787	Dr. Abidallah Al-Amer	22561444		
eons		Dr. Faysal Al-Fozan	22619557		
	22610044	Dr. Abdallateef Al-Katrash	22525888		
er	25327148	Dr. Abidallah Al-Duweisan	25653755		
& He	eart	Dr. Bader Al-Ansari	25620111		
	22639939	Neurologis	ts		
	22666300	Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri	25633324		
	25728004	Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan	25345875		
25355515		Gastrologists			
	24726446	Dr. Sami Aman	22636464		
	25654300/3	Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly	25322030		
	2000-1000/0	Dr. Foad Abidallah Al-Ali	22633135		

Kaizen center

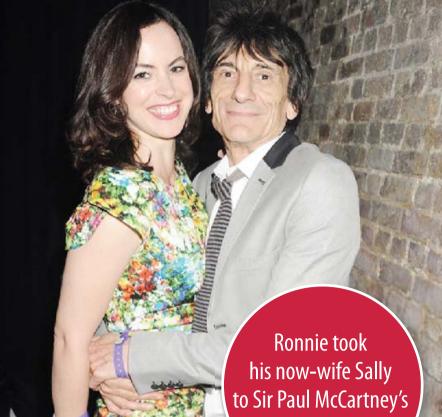
25716707

Noor Clinic

23845955

Dr. Abd Al-Naser Al-Othman	25339330			
Dr. Ahmad Al-Ansari 25658888				
Dr. Kamal Al-Shomr 25329924	,			
Physiotherapists & VD				
Dr. Deyaa Shehab 25722291				
Dr. Musaed Faraj Khamees	22666288			
Rheumatologists:				
Dr. Adel Al-Awadi 25330060				
Dr. Khaled Al-Jarallah	25722290			
Internist, Chest & Heart				
DR.Mohammes Akkad	24555050 Ext 210			
Dr. Mohammad Zubaid				
MB, ChB, FRCPC, PACC Assistant Professor Of Medici	ne			
Head, Division of Cardiology				
Mubarak Al-Kabeer Hospital	25339667			
Consultant Cardiologist				
Dr. Farida Al-Habib MD, PH.D, FACC	2611555-2622555			
Inaya German Medical Center				
Te: 2575077				
Fax: 25723123				
William Schuilenberg, RP Zaina Al Zabin, M.Sc. 229				

Endocrinologist



he Rolling Stones rocker became friends with the 38-year-old theatre producer in 2003, but their relationship didn't turn romantic until sometime later, and the brunette beauty began to think differently about her pal when she accompanied him to the Beatles legend's nuptials with Nancy Shevell in 2011. Sally recalled: "There was this lovely family atmosphere and Ronnie and I had a real laugh. We danced and it was the first time I remember thinking of him in a completely different way." A few weeks later, the 69year-old rocker wrote a letter to Sally about how deeply he felt for her, and on the advice of a friend, she agreed to give things a go and the pair will celebrate their fourth wedding anniversary next week. And Sally who has six-month-old twins Alice and Gracie with Ronnie - insists the 30-year age gap between them has never been a probwedding

lem. She said: "You know what, I find it rude when people talk unkindly about it... Yes, he is older and I am younger, but I don't think about age when I think of Ronnie. He's always had this unbelievably positive, youthful energy about him, which I absolutely love. "I also think there is a lot to be said for marrying an older man. He knows who he is, he knows what he wants. He makes me happy, we laugh and he's a great dad. He's so relaxed and incredibly creative." The 'Brown Sugar' rocker is a hands-on dad who is happy to change nappies and get up with the babies during the night. Sally laughed: "He says the babies keep his hours, so he's really happy to be up in the night with them."

**Kourtney Kardashian** threw a 'Fast and the Furious' themed birthday party



## **CEELO GREEN HAS REASSURED** FANS HE IS ALIVE AND WELL

hocking surveillance footage appeared online on Saturday of the former 'Voice' coach taking a call in the recording studio before his device blew up, knocking him off his chair and onto the floor, sparking concern from fans. However, the 'Crazy' hitmaker has now admitted all was not as it seemed and he is "upset" that his supporters have been "emotional disturbed" by footage for his new musical project. He said in a Facebook Live broadcast: "Hey y'all, listen. I just want to let everybody know that I am alive and I am well and I'm OK. "Truthfully, I'm really upset that anybody had to be emotionally disturbed by what they saw today. "Actually what you saw today was a clip from a smaller video that we were shooting for a new project that I'm doing called Gnarly Davidson. It's supposed to set up and introduce the new character identity. "I'm still going to release the music, but first and foremost to everybody that love me and care about me, I just wanted to let you know that I'm OK ... I just want to thank everybody for their love and support and concern." Among those who had been left upset by the 42-year-old star's apparent accident was 'Post To Be' hit maker Omarion. He had tweeted: "@CeeLoGreen Sooo manyyyy prayers & light to you brother!!!! I [pray] your hearing is ok!!! (sic)"



## **Blac Chyna and Rob** Kardashian Split

he 28-year-old make-up artist has confirmed she is "done" with the reclusive sock designer, just a month after the birth of their daughter Dream, and accused him of "verbally abusing" her on a regular basis. Chyna hit out after her Instagram page was hacked and screenshots supposedly of a conversation between her and her lawyer about trade marking her future married name of Angela Renee Kardashian, and her direct messages with people including Young Thug, Jaden Smith and her friend Treasure, to whom the 'Rob & Chyna' star seemingly told she was giving her partner a year to get himself together or she'd leave, and branding him "lazy, fat, insecure". She then opened a new social media account and wrote: "I'M DONE. This entire year I have done nothing but help Rob! It's so SAD & PATHÉTIC how low he'd stoop to cover up HIS PERSONAL ISSUES! "I have done nothing but help & loved him from the beginning! It's Chy here I got my own!!! "I was doing swell before I got with him! I got him out of khloe's house, helped him lose all that weight for him to do nothing & gain it all back! "Rob asked for all of this! Rob begged me to have Dream! He stressed me out my ENTIRE PREG-NANCY!!! Accusing me of cheating, going crazy on me with massive text blast daily! being an absolute lunatic & then cover it up with gifts! "I was verbally abused every other day. I was still there with nothing but high hopes for us! I had to beg him to cut his hair, To take his braces of, and To get more into his businesses! I shouldn't have to tell any grown man!" Chyna - who also has four-year-old son King Cairo with ex-boyfriend Tyga - seemingly accused Rob of leaking her messages, claiming he did so because he "couldn't find anything" to be mad about, and went on to slam the 29-year-old star for not seeing their daughter since she left. She continued: "Not to mention Just brought

he 37-year-old beauty staged a "low-key" bash for Mason, who turned seven on December 14, and Reign, who was two on the same day, and her Los Angeles home following a week of celebrations for the pair. Kourtney - who also has four-year-old daughter Penelope with Scott Disick donned casual attire for the party, teaming her skinny jeans with sneakers, an oversized denim jacket and a red, white and blue bandana around her head. Both the young and adult guests enjoyed the fun, with entertainment including a huge car-shaped bouncy castle, and a tricycle race track. A giant

balloon display in the garden spelled out 'The Fast and the Furious'. Earlier in the week, the birthday boys enjoyed a family trip to Disneyland with their parents and grandmother Kris Jenner. And Kourtney also penned a touching tribute to the pair. Sharing a photo of Mason and Reign on Instagram, she wrote: "My twin boys born five years apart. Luckiest mommy in the world. Happy birthday to them. (sic)." On her app, she added: "How crazy is it that I have two boys born on the same exact day? It is truly so special and meant to be. They changed my heart forever. Happy birthday to the coolest brothers I know!!!"



**Michael Sheen is taking a** step back from his career

he 'Masters of Sex' star has lived in Los Angeles for the last 14 years, but is now planning to return to his native Wales to be a full-time activist and has confirmed he currently has no TV or movie projects in the pipeline. He told The Times newspaper: "It will be a big change for how people relate to me. Once I'm in, I'm fully in, and this is big. As soon as you start to be effective, then people try to crush you, because it's dangerous." The 47-yearold actor - who is in a relationship with comic Sarah Silverman - claimed the recent US presidential election, which will see Donald Trump take office in the coming months, spurred him on to take action. He added: "In the same way as the Nazis had to be stopped in Germany in the Thirties, this thing that is on the rise has to be stopped. "It's not going to look like this in ten years' time. Everything has shifted. The dice are being rolled again." Following the publication of



the interview, Michael has insisted he is not quitting acting entirely, but is taking a break as he wants to focus on his increased interest in community issues "back at home". He said: "I DID NOT declare that I'm 'quitting acting and leaving Hollywood' to go into politics.

**Jamie Oliver** thinks his daughters are better parents than he is

him a brand new 2016 Range Rover! I PUT MY PRIDE ASIDE & I GAVE UP MY HOUSE TO MOVE INTO KYLIE'S HOUSE WITH HIM TO BE WITH A MAN!! We weren't together in that house 2 whole weeks before he starting calling me all types of bitches & hoes! AND I NEVER NOT ONCE CHEATED

ON ROB! EVER!



he 41-year-old chef has kids Poppy, 14, Daisy, 13, Petal, seven, Buddy, six, and River, four months, with wife Jools and is always impressed with how well the teenagers care for the younger members of the family. He said: "Even with Buddy, Poppy and Daisy were incredible adult figures. Sometimes I think they're better parents than I am." Poppy and Daisy were present at their youngest brother's birth and Poppy even cut River's umbilical cord, with Jamie catching the "magic" moment on camera. He said:" Often mums have to work hard for teenage girls and I just thought it was an amazing moment to respect your mum for being pretty damn incredible. "It was just magic and I got it on camera as well." The culinary expert admits he is learning slowly about being a father to teenagers, as it doesn't come as naturally to him as parenting younger kids. He told Woman magazine: "I wouldn't say I'm a natural parent of teenagers, but I am picking it up. "I'm definitely good at the toddler bit and the baby bit, but you know, you're just tryin to duck and drive and learn what they need and what they do and don't like from parents. "I think Jools and I are quite normal and we want the kids to be kind and nice people. "She's a great mum and I try to do the bit that dads do too, which is a hard one to navigate, but they like me around. "Normally celeb kids can be a little bit up and down so I'm trying to keep them grounded and normal and give them experiences that make them nice people."

**Margot Robbie loves** staying in hostels

always enjoyed travelling but she admits she isn't sure her fame means she can still explore anonymously and stay in budget

> accommoda-She tion. told heat magazine: don't know [if I can still stay in hostels anonymously],

ne 'Suicide Squad' actress has maybe not. But travelling is important to me and I love immersing myself in different cultures. "The big advantage in staying in hostels is that you get to meet so many people. I like being able to connect to people - it really enriches my way of appreciating the world." And Margot previously revealed her boyfriend Tom Ackerley managed to change her opinion on relationships. She said: "[Before we met] I was the ultimate single gal. The idea of relationships made me want to vomit. And then this crept up on me. "We were friends for so long. I was always in love with him, but I thought, 'Oh, he would never love me back. Don't make it weird, Margot. Don't be stupid and tell him that you like him.' And then it happened, and I was like, Of course we're together. This makes so much sense, the way nothing has ever made sense before."



he 32-year-old reality star filed for divorce from the retired basketball player in 2013, and their split was finally legalized on Saturday after a judge approved their documents last week. Despite having been separated from the 'Keeping Up with the Kardashians' star for three years, Lamar is reportedly "emotional" about the end of their relationship, and "knows he blew it" with the beauty. A source said: "Lamar takes things really hard, whether it is something serious or something very little and minuscule. "So when it comes to his divorce being finalized he is thinking of all the good times, all the help Khloe gave him when he was in the hospital, and knows he blew it. "He had a great girl and he will eventually move on, but it

is a sad time for Lamar because he knows he let the right girl get away. He is very emotional about it ending officially." And the 35-year-old sports star is reportedly "in shock" at the official end of their divorce. A second source told HollywoodLife.com: "He's in shock that their divorce is final because he knows this is all his doing. "Khloe loved him hard, terribly hard and Lamar knows in his soul that he may never find another woman like her again and that's a real realty gut check." Meanwhile, it was previously claimed that Lamar is "completely out" of Khloe's life but she stills cares deeply for him. A source said: "Lamar is out of her life completely. No animosity there - she still cares about him, she still wants him to be safe, but it's over."

## Kuwait \_ Times 55.





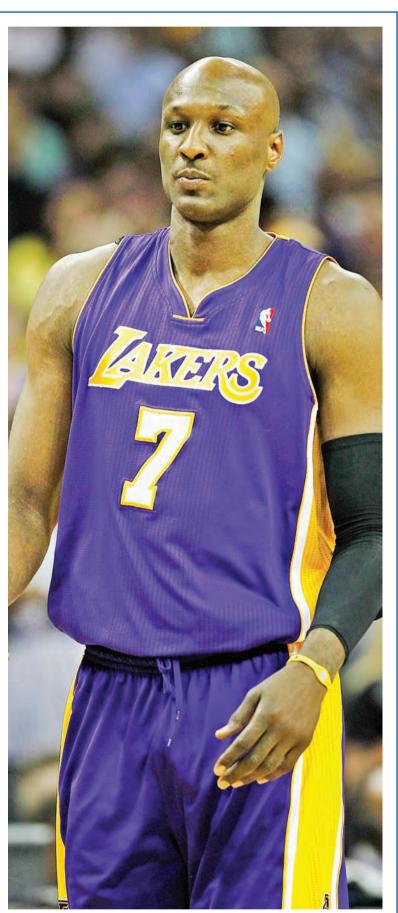
## ASHTON KUTCHER AND MILA KUNIS ARE 'NOT DONE' EXPANDING THEIR FAMILY

he 38-year-old actor and his actress wife, 33, may have only welcomed their second child Dimitri into the world in November - who is the younger brother of their two-year-old daughter Wyatt - but the pair are reportedly already thinking about baby number three. A source claimed to HollywoodLife.com: "Ashton and Mila are not done in the baby making department, and she is eager to start again sooner than Ashton might be ready himself. "They want a big family, and she feels the sooner the better. As much as she likes to act, she is okay with doing voiceover work to substitute the time to have even more family. "So don't be surprised when she gets pregnant again." The news of a possible third child for the couple - who married in 2015 - may not come as much of a surprise, as the 'Black Swan' actress recently claimed both herself and the 'Jobs'



actor "knew" their family wasn't "complete" when Wyatt was born. She said: "I've always said this; I think you know when your family is complete. "After we had Wyatt, the second that I gave birth, I was like, 'I know that we need to have another baby. We both knew it, we just felt it. And so I always say after the second one, we'll know if we need to have another one. "I really do believe you know when your family is complete." And if the couple do decide to go for baby number three, they might have difficulty coming up with a name, as Ashton recently revealed he wanted to name their son Hawkeye after Benjamin 'Hawkeye' Pierce, a character who appeared on 1970s television show 'M\*A\*S\*H\*'. He said: "There was a rallying cry from a collective that believed in the name Hawkeye. "A kid named Hawkeye, it could be 'M\*A\*S\*H\*'-y, like he could be a doctor."

Blac Chyna shares adorable video of her two children bonding



## HILARY DUFF thinks she was too young when she got married

he 29-year-old actress married 36year-old retired hockey player Mike Comrie - with whom she shares fouryear-old son Luca - when she was just 22, and whilst she "wouldn't change" her position, she doesn't believe she was "mature enough" to deal with marriage at such a young age. Appearing on US talk show 'The Talk' on Friday, the 'Younger' actress explained: "I was 22 when I got married. I'm now divorced, I have a 4-year-old - I wouldn't change any of it for the world. "I had so much, so young and a full time job. I felt really ready to get married. However, I don't think we were mature enough to stick it out." The former 'Lizzie McGuire' star - who has reportedly split from her personal trainer beau Jason Walsh - previously claimed she doesn't "feel the need" to get married for a second time. She said: "I don't feel the need to get married again. As

much as I was ready and excited, you're like, 'Oh, next step. We get married.' That is the traditional person that I'm talking about that's inside of me or however I was raised. "I don't feel the need. I got to have the experience and it was awesome. I guess if it mattered to someone else that much, I would consider it." Meanwhile, the blonde beauty said she came under "so much scrutiny" when she gave birth to her first child at 24 years old and was made to feel "useless" for falling pregnant at an early age. She said: "I feel like I was judged for having a baby too soon, and getting married too soon and now, I'm pigeonholed for being a 'mom'. "Lots of women in the industry that don't have a child yet are judged. "We are the most in demand and the most desirable, but the most judged and the hardest on one another. It's so much scrutiny."



he 28-year-old model has taken to Snapchat to share a heartwarming video of her four-year-old son King Cairo whom she shares with ex-boyfriend and rapper Tyga showering his one-month-old sister Dream Renee Kardashian, whose father is Rob Kardashian, with love. The young boy tells is mother in the clip posted on Saturday (17.12.16): "I wanna kiss my baby!" King Cairo then proceeded to plant two loving kisses on Dream's face. He then said: "She's smiling!" The sweet video comes after the 'Rob & Chyna' star recently revealed she had to hide her first pregnancy, and is happy she can now share snaps of her daughter with the world on her social media accounts. She said: "With my first pregnancy, I didn't do a maternity shoot, I didn't have a baby shower. "Having to hide your pregnancy is just not a good feeling. So now, with this baby, it's really important everybody that supported me share this moment." Meanwhile, Chyna and her fiancÈ Rob, 29, have recently moved into the old house of Rob's half sister Kylie Jenner - who is now dating Tyga. A source said previously: "Rob wants to live with Chyna and spend every day with Dream. He's making a big effort to get along with Chyna. She seems very happy with him. They are getting along great and enjoying parenting together.

## Gloria Loring is left a 'profoundly sad wound' after the death of her ex-husband Alan Thicke

he 'Growing Pains' star was 69 years old when he passed away from a heart attack on Tuesday, and the 70-year-old singer, who was married to the star for 13 years from 1970-1983, is struggling to come to terms with his passing. Gloria said: "It's deep and it's a profoundly sad wound to our family. "Anytime you lose one of the major father-mother figures in a family, it's very hard. And Alan was definitely a big presence in our family. If he entered the room, the party started. He just had a great sense of humour and a wonderful energy. We all loved him." The pair who share two children, Brennan, 42, and Robin, 39 - remained close



despite their divorce, and even met up at Robin's Thanksgiving party last month. Recalling the meeting, Gloria said: "He was entertaining the people. "He was talking and visiting and quipping and throwing the funny lines around and just being the host. He was always the host. When we were married, I was in the kitchen and he was the host. "And he had a very funny line. In fact, I told him, I said, 'I swear, I stayed married [to you] a lot longer than I would have because you were so darn funny.' And at one point, he said to somebody, 'No, Gloria and I have a great marriage. It's a 50/50 marriage. She cleans and I dirty."

## Lamar Odom's ex-girlfriend Liza Morales shares her support

he 37-year-old retired professional basketball player - who recently divorced from his former wife KhloÈ Kardashian - checked himself into a rehabilitation centre near San Diego, California, earlier this week, and his former partner has taken to Instagram to post a message of support. Posting a picture of the note she had typed up, Liza - who shares children Destiny, 18, and Lamar Jr., 14 with Lamar - wrote: "Instead of directly responding to each of the media outlets that have sent emails and dm's, let me express how proud we are of Lamar for taking the necessary steps in his life's journey. "This is a private situation that has become public for observation, speculation and judgment. This may be media fodder for some, but Lamar is a father, kin and a friend. Anyone that has dealt (or is dealing) with the same situation with a loved one or friend knows it's one day at a time. In the meantime, Destiny, Lamar Jr. and I send light and positivity to their dad and hope you can do the same. (sic)" The news of support comes after it was recently reported that the star had entered rehab in order to avoid temptation from drink and drugs on the 10th birthday of his third child Jayden - also born to Liza - who died aged six months from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). According to TMZ.com, Lamar "checked himself into rehab out of fear he'd go on a major bender as his deceased son's birthday approached". Lamar's decision to enter rehab also comes a year after he was hospitalized after a drink and drug binge at a Nevada brothel. A source said of his rehabilitation: "He went to continue making sure he stays sober and on the right path. It was something he chose to do. He did it for his kids and also wanted to feel 100 percent again. He did not relapse, but felt like he wanted to get away and start fresh for the New Year."

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## LIFESTYLE FEATURES



Artists perform during the Festival of Light in the main streets of San Jose — AFP photos















# What's it like to win Spain's bountiful Christmas lottery



Workers of the Eiffel Tower stand next a banner reading "Employees of the Eiffel tower on strike" on the fourth day of the strike, in Paris. — AP

## **Eiffel Tower reopens after** a close down of five days

he Eiffel Tower has reopened to the public after a closedown of five consecutive days due to workers' strike. The company that manages the tower, SETE, said in a written statement it reached an agreement with workers unions and the tower reopened at midday yesterday. The CGT and FO unions had called for a strike last week

because they wanted workers to be included in the decision-making process and more funds to be directed to the site's maintenance. "The large number of visitors in Paris for the holiday season will be able to visit the Eiffel Tower and discover its fabulous view over Paris," the company said in a written statement — AP

wo years ago, a district in Madrid got lucky in Spain's hugely popular Christmas lottery, with people working or living there winning prizes of between 120,000 and 3.0 million Euros. As Spaniards gear up for the next windfall from the world's richest lottery known as el "Gordo", or the "Fat One", AFP asked the 2014 winners in the Almagro area-and people who know them-how their lives had changed. The answer? Some retired early, others opened a new business and one football betting addict lost all his money. But, by and large, many kept going steadily on in the same job. Their profiles vary widely, from 32 workers at Madrid's Wax Museum — 80 percent of whom continue to work there-to employees of the exclusive Genova Financial Club, shopkeepers, insurance brokers and nuns.

People like Arturo Aguirre, owner of the Kalko stationery store, who won 320,000 Euros (\$335,000) two years ago on December 22, the day each year when the lottery is drawn. Unlike other big lotteries that generate just a few big winners, Spain's Christmas lottery aims to share the wealth, with thousands of numbers getting a prize. "On the Wednesday I signed for a bank loan (to buy the store), on the Thursday the lottery ticket seller gave me a ticket as a gift, and on the Monday I won," Aguirre told AFP. The father of two teenage boys said winning the money had had a hugely soothing effect, "as if they operated on the nerves."

#### A so happy birth

The man behind this lucky turn of events was Lino Cuervo, the local lottery ticket seller whose shop is just a few meters away from the stationery store. That year, he became Father Christmas, earning his customers 416 million Euros in winning tickets out of a nationwide total of 2.2 billion Euros.

He and his family also profited from winning tickets, prompting such an outburst of merriment and partying that his daughter went into labor and gave birth the next day.

The Christmas lottery has been held uninterrupted in Spain since 1812, even during the 1936-39 civil war when each side held its own



People queue to buy Christmas lottery outside the popular lottery outlet 'Dona Manolita' in central Madrid. — AFP Photos

draw during the conflict. It has become a popular Christmas tradition in Spain with friends, colleagues and bar regulars banding together to buy tickets.

#### 'Postpones bankruptcy'

The decision of many winners to continue with their normal lives is not surprising. A 2005 study by Sweden's University of Gothenburg found that 62 percent of those who won the lottery in that country had continued to work. Another study published in 2010 by three US researchers analyzed the evolution of close to 35,000 lottery winners in Florida between 1993 and 2002. They found that the windfall did not solve their money problems in the long term.

"The results indicate that giving \$50,000 to \$150,000 to people only postpones bankruptcy," the study said. "Specifically, while these recipients are 50 percent less likely than small winners to file for bankruptcy immediately after winning, they are more likely to file for bankruptcy three to five years after winning," it added. Javier Gaite,

a financial adviser specialized in income management, said the best option was to save money, pay off any existing debt and "invest carefully".

Many of those interviewed by AFP did just that, including some of the 25 employees of the El Mentidero de la Villa restaurant. Then chef Jose Ynglada won big — 3.5 million Euros. "I still haven't touched it. It's in my daughters' fund, in the bank," said Ynglada, who now works in another restaurant and has no intention of quitting as chef. It's the same story-albeit with only around 100,000 Euros-for Daniel Drouet, an Ecuadorian waiter at El Mentidero de la Villa.

He has placed his winnings in a fund at an international bank, with a view of potentially opening his own business later. "I don't want to hurry, I want to think about it and see," he said. One man who did quit his job was head chef Daniel Domingo. Instead, he opened a shop selling-guess what? Lottery tickets. The business was financed along with his wife and another colleague using their combined winnings of 360,000 Euros. — AFP

























South Korean divers wearing Santa Claus dresses perform amongst fish in a tank during a Christmas event at the Coex Aquarium in Seoul. — AFP Photos









Darryl Hendricks moves into position on a breakwater to photograph sea smoke rising off the waters of Casco Bay, in South Portland, Maine. — AP

## **RECOVERING FROM WAR, MOZAMBICAN** NATIONAL PARK FACES CONFLIC





This photograph taken by Nick Knight is a portrait of Britain's Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Charles, taken in the White Drawing Room at Windsor Castle, England, prior to the final night of the Queen's 90th birthday. — AP

ne is not amused. But the other one is. Queen Elizabeth II's photographic portrait unveiled Sunday features a determined look ahead and perhaps the faintest whisper of a Mona Lisa smile. The heir to her throne, Prince Charles, stands beside his seated mother, one hand propped in the pocket of his black dinner jacket, the other behind her back. Charles' downward gaze of smiling affection competes for attention with the queen's serious, forward focus.

Fashion photographer Nick Knight shot the image in May inside Windsor Castle before evening celebrations at the Royal Windsor Horse Show. The queen wore a sea green and dove gray brocade dress by Angela Kelly. Knight said he sought "to create a modern portrait that showed warmth and humanity as well as strength and tradition." — AP

fragment of a bullet-pocked wall in A this Mozambique wildlife reserve is a reminder of a civil war that ended in 1992. Today, an ambitious revival of Gorongosa National Park is underway, but trouble looms again from the conflict's old foes. One of Africa's richest ecosystems, Gorongosa historically has been a stronghold of the country's main opposition group, whose rivalry with the ruling party has spiraled into ambushes, tit-for-tat assassinations and other attacks in the last few years. The two sides have been negotiating, and a return to war is unlikely. But the Gorongosa Restoration Project, which is pushing ahead with a 2017 budget of more than \$8 million, is treading a delicate line between adversaries.

Some funds go to aid for poor communities in contested areas around the park. As in other parts of Africa, a well-funded agenda is vulnerable to political unrest beyond its control. "We really are neutral," said Greg Carr, an American philanthropist who leads the Gorongosa non-profit group and has telephone numbers for leaders of both factions. Many of the 500 people working for the wildlife park back Renamo, the opposition, and some support Frelimo, the ruling party, though managers discourage any sensitive talk on the job.

One recent morning, as insects trilled in the heat, rangers in uniform saluted Rui Branco, the park's head of law enforcement, before departing on a patrol to thwart poachers who kill animals for their meat. "We've had opportunism. You get poachers" trying to pretend they're someone, or one of the sides, and they hope they'll get let go because of that," Branco said. "In the beginning, it worked for them. The scouts would be afraid. And then we realized what was going on." Government forces and Renamo fighters stay out of most of the unfenced park. The rival groups "know who we are, and they respect what we do," Branco said.

The civil war that started in 1977 killed up to 1 million people. Frelimo was a Marxist guerrilla movement when it took power, and Renamo rebels were backed by white-minority rulers in what was then Rhodesia, and in apartheid South Africa. After post-war election losses, Renamo (the Portuguese acronym for Mozambican National Resistance) now wants more regional autonomy from Frelimo (Mozambique Liberation Front), a process that could require constitutional change. European Union mediator Mario Raffaelli traveled to Gorongosa in October to try to meet Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama,

who cancelled after alleging government troops launched an operation.

#### To save our flora and fauna

Undeterred, the Gorongosa Restoration Project is extending a joint management plan with Mozambique for another 25 years. It believes it can build on gains that include the partial recovery of lions, elephants and other wildlife populations that were slaughtered for food during the war. Carr, who signed a Gorongosa management deal with Mozambique in 2008 after a government invitation, has support from the United States Agency for International Development, or USAID, at \$2 million a year, and the Global Environment Facility, with a \$7.5 million grant managed by the United Nations Development Program.

In a letter to Gorongosa warden Mateus Mutemba, USAID praised the park for progress "while surrounded by armed conflict." A recent ceremony at Gorongosa could signal an expansion of the 4,067square-kilometer (1,570-square-mile) park at a time when many African wildlife habitats are shrinking because of human encroachment. Entreposto, a Portuguese business group that runs an adjacent hunting concession, said it wants Mozambique's government to add that land to the park,

creating tourism opportunities and a wildlife corridor to the Zambezi River.

Antelope grazed in the distance during the signing event at dusk on a Gorongosa plain. Guests included Maria AmÈlia Paiva, the ambassador of Portugal, Mozambique's colonial ruler until 1975. "We all die ..." sang Pedro Muagura, the park's director of conservation. A chorus mostly composed of rangers and students studying in the park finished the line: "... to save our flora and fauna." It was festive, but some park officials worried that the news might be manipulated for political gain. One theory is that Renamo could allege that plans to expand the national park are a government effort to increase influence in the area.

Another worry is Mount Gorongosa, whose incorporation into the park in 2010 was praised by conservationists and opened the way to reforestation and coffeegrowing projects. However, the area has been a virtual no-go zone amid reported incursions by the military. Scientists stopped working on Mount Gorongosa because of the "potential danger," said Piotr Naskrecki, an entomologist who is helping to develop a research laboratory in the park. Gorongosa's development will proceed, insisted Mutemba, the warden. "We are optimists," he said. "We're not waiting." - AP

